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Whitney South Sea Expedition file

IN MEMORIUM

WALTER JAKOB EYERDAM
November 16, 1892 — December 31, 1974

Walter Eyerdam was surely one of this century's greatest collectors of biological specimens, primarily mollusks and plants, but also birds and mammals. More than this, he was a skilled barrel cooper (spending the summers of over 28 years working in Alaska — and always collecting), steel chipper, and mineralogist. An inveterate explorer and indefatigable collector, he made many trips sponsored by major museums and universities, chiefly to Siberia, the Andes, and the South Pacific.

Probably Eyerdam's most notable ornithological work was as one of the Ornithologist and Naturalist of the Whitney South Sea Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History in 1929 and 1930. Starting at that time and until his death he was a member of the Pacific Northwest Bird and Mammal Society contributing several articles to *The Murrelet*, as on the birds of the Solomon Islands (XI:76-78, 1930) and Aleutian Islands (SVII:48-52,1936). Many of us will remember his knowledgeable and articulate comments on birds and mammals at our meetings over several decades — and his gift as a raconteur.

Eyerdam was most famous as a malacologist and published over 100 articles and notes on mollusks chiefly in *The Nautilus*. Many new species have been named after him. Much of his huge collection of shells went to the Field Museum of Chicago — 58,000 just of land and fresh-water specimens in 1962. Thousands of his specimens, including hundreds of birds and mammals, are in the American Museum of Natural History and in the Smithsonian Institution.

Eyerdam was born and died in Seattle and is survived by his daughter and five grandchildren. Friendly, talkative, argumentative, highly able and informed in his many fields, Walter Eyerdam will long be remembered by those who knew him — a distinguished and stalwart man whose like we may not see again. —FRANK RICHARDSON, Deer Harbor, Wash. 98243, July 6, 1975.

1975

Walter Eyerdam, Explorer In Solomons and Siberia

SEATTLE, Jan. 3 (AP)—Walter J. Eyerdam, an explorer who had visited some 50 countries, died Wednesday in a hospital here at the age of 82.

He was a member of the Whitney Expedition to the Solomon Islands in 1929 and made five trips to the Soviet Union and the Siberian steppes between 1925 and 1931.

Mr. Eyerdam had been honored many times by scientists who gave his name to rare birds, fossils, mosses and even a volcano in Siberia.

He leaves a daughter, Lilo Homchick, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

WHITNEY SOUTH SEA EXPEDITION

of

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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Journal of

WALTER J. EYERDAM.

August 17, 1929-- July 10, 1930.

38#12458-May 4

Kieta, Bougainville Island,
August 17 to September 3, 1929.

As we had no bird collecting equipment from the France, I spent most of my spare time in carefully exploring the beaches, reefs and ditches around about Kieta for shells. About 350 species and subspecies of marines, 20 species of land and about 30 species and varieties of fresh water shells were thus obtained, mostly in large series. Five kerosene cases of shells were taken. It is rather remarkable to note the extreme variation in species of fresh water shells taken in four ditches at Kieta, all within distance of about half a mile. Most of these shells are probably only varieties of a few prominent species of Melanias and Neritinas. Two of the ditches are parallel to each other at a distance of about 200 feet apart. No less than 25 species and varieties were taken in the two two ditches, mostly of these two genera In No.1 ditch or creek, which is the farthest apart, only 4 species were found, none of which occurred however in the three remaining ditches. Each of these ditches were inhabited by from three to six species and varieties not found in any of the others, although the same conditions prevailed. It is also rather a remarkable fact that although one can often find many varieties of Melan-

ias and Neritas in a small area on certain islands, still they are found throughout the Solomon Islands. There are some Melanias that are distributed over a wide area of the South Pacific. They are a rather difficult group of shells to handle if a conchologist wishes to classify them down to sub-species and varieties, but for specific rank they are quite easily recognized. The same common species are found in almost every river and creek throughout the Solomons, the Bismarks and Eastern New Guinea. This is from my own observation, for the range of some of the species is very likely much greater.

Faisi, Shortland Islands, British Solomons
September 6th. to 14th., 1930.

Three days were spent in sailing to Faisi, Shortland Islands, where we stayed 8 days-- Sept. 6th. to 14th. to take on supplies etc. As Mr. Beck with his crew had previously made thorough collections of the avifauna of this region, we only took a few of the rarer species. This is a very difficult locality to work in and the results are poor. A large, wide flat mangrove swamp nearly surrounds the bay at Faisi and it is exceedingly difficult to pass through it to the higher ground, except at Low Fung's cocoanut plantation. Birds are very scarce and what there are of them are mostly common. Beck with all his men and much effort got only a few

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good species.

A Good series of Marine shells were gathered; some of the beach drift in some spots being exceedingly rich in minute species after a blow. About 150 kinds were taken. One can only find drift, rich in shells at rare intervals. It must always be gathered at the time when found, for the next tide generally carries it away or buries it and it will have disappeared.

There is a fine cool spring of clear fresh-water about 12 feet deep, back of the mangroves on Low Fung's plantation. It is surrounded by beautiful shade trees, pandanus, palms, large tree ferns and a dense growth of lesser plants and vines. The pool is about 25 feet square. There are no flies or mosquitoes. Out of the spring flows a clear cold stream about 10 feet wide and 1 to 3 feet deep. In this pool, I collected over 30 species and varieties of shells in 2 hours. With a thorough raking over the bottom, many more varieties could very likely be brought to light. Many of these shells are quite the same as what I found in the ditches at Kieta and since then on various streams throughout the Br. Solomons.

Choiseul Bay, Choiseul Island, British Solomons.
September 16th.- October 6th., 1930.

Two days sailing from Faisi brought us to Choiseul Bay, Choiseul Island, where 21 days were spent

(September 16th. to October 6th.) - Beck had been there about a week on a previous trip, but Mr. Hamlin decided that the locality required a more thorough collecting and that it would be as good a place as anywhere to start to hunt for the rare ground pigeon, Microgoura Meeki, of which Meek and Eichorn had taken 6 specimens over 20 years before. These are in the Tring Museum and are the only examples known to science.

Choiseul bay is shallow and muddy. The inside affords a good anchorage and it is well protected by several long coral reefs that nearly block the entrance to the bay. It is surrounded by large, muddy mangrove swamps, which can only be crossed to higher ground in a few places.

Back of the Mangrove swamps are fine forests of large trees, mostly of the Ficus family. There is a native village on one end of the bay and most of the hunting trips were made in its vicinity. Parties were sent ashore every day to hunt birds and some of the natives also did a lot of work for us. Altho many rare birds were taken here including a number that Beck did not get, we could find no trace of the Microgoura. Desirable birds, however, are very scarce and about 2 or 3 good birds were the general result of an all day hunt.

Over 300 species of shells were collected including a good series of the smaller Tridacnas, which are not yet well worked out. Two large sharks were caught

one night about 10 P.M. while we were skinning birds. The largest was 10-1/2 feet long. This one was left dangling over the side of the ship. During the night a larger shark ate about one half of his brother or sister. I collected several kinds of parasites from the sharks, including several leeches. They are probably trematodes. I did not know that leeches were found in salt water. The Polynesians cut out the jaws and dried them for Mr. Hamlin. They also dried the fins which they afterwards sold to a Chinaman in Tulagi.

While the France lay in Choiseul bay, Mr. Hamlin, with the two Samoan half-caste boys, Charlie and David, went on an 18 day trip in the vicinity of Mt. Maytambi and the Methodist Mission at Bambatani. They brought back about 3 dozen birds, mostly rare, but no Microgoura. When Hamlin came back in a big native war canoe, the France went to Lutee, where two separate trips were made into the bush to look for the bird. Every effort was made to find it and all native villages on that side of the island were informed that 4 pounds would be offered for a Microgoura. Dr. Mayr, Mr. Coultas, and one of the Samoans spent 2 weeks on the Wurulata river and on Mount Maytambi while Mr. Hamlin and David and I went with the trader Dutchy Clark to the Methodist Mission village of Bambatani to outfit for a trek into the bush up the Sasumanga river and back into the hills.

Before making this excursion, we collected a rotten blackfish on a beach about 5 miles from the village.

Thinking that it might be a rare species, I was determined to de-skeletonize the carcass and send it to Dr. Murphy. The natives flocked down to the water to watch me butcher the stinking whale, after stuffing their noses with grass. All I had to work with was a sharp Japanese knife with a blade about 8 inches long. After about an hour, several of them mustered up courage to help with the cutting, and within 2 hours, there were about 20 of them working with a will, with copra knives and axes, some of them cutting while others were boiling the meat off of the bones. Mr. Hamlin numbered and labelled all of them. The whole job was completed before the following evening and the bones were all carried back to the village. It was great fun for the natives after they had entered into the spirit of the game.

The next day we went into the bush with 10 carriers. We had to carry the heaviest loads ourselves up the steep and slippery trails. Most of the time that we were on Choiseul island, it rained every day, but up on the Sasumanga river, after 3 days, we were washed out of camp one night. We lay in about 3 inches of water. It rained almost all the time and the river rose so high that we had to cross it before it was too late. We learned from the natives how to cross a raging stream in flood time. All our baggage was finally carried over and we reached the other side of the river in safety. The collecting trip had to be abandoned, so we went back to the coast again with

only about 20 birds.

At Bambatani we continued our hunting and had a lot of hunters out but no sign of a Microgoura pigeon. Some of the older natives knew the bird and one of the newcomers to the big religious meeting that was in progress, declared that he had caught two of them about a year before near Tahro on Rob Roy island, adjacent to the south end of Choiseul island. This locality was very near to the spot where Meek and Eichhorn had secured their specimens, so we still laid out hopes of bagging one or two in that place. We were informed by the natives that the bird had been practically exterminated by pussy cats gone wild that the Mission had first brought to Choiseul Island, a few years before. This is quite likely the case and we are quite convinced that there are no more Microgoura pigeons left. They can fly but little, have permanent roosts at night, are easily found and especially the young would be very easy prey for cats, dogs and pigs.

When we got back to the France, the other hunting parties had also shortly returned with no better results than we, so Mr. Hamlin and David and I went again with Dutchy the trader to Tahro where we hunted over a week. This was Meek's old hunting locality and remains of his camp could still be seen in the bush at one place. We got a lot of good birds, but not the one we were looking for. Mr. Hamlin had not yet abandoned hope when the France came over to get us, so he left David, our best hunter and

only about 20 birds.

bird skinner, to work farther inland and to hunt on the mainland of Choiseul. About three weeks later, David joined us in Tulagi, with a few good birds but no Microgoura. Over three months had been spent on Choiseul at an expense of about 60 dollars per day. The primary object was to get a Microgoura, but incidentally we got a lot of fine birds including about every species on the island. A splendid collection of shells were also made as a side line, as there was plenty of time for this kind of work between times, and it would have seemed a shame not to collect them, on such a little known island.

When the France left Choiseul island, she went to Tulagi where her engine was repaired and a general overhauling made by the Chinese ship builder, Chang Chong. She had been running by sail for over 4 months after her engine was damaged. Mr. Beck had done a lot of collecting around the vicinity of Tulagi and on Galer or Florida island. Only one bird was still in demand that had been heard on Florida but not taken. This was the Centropus, a large tree climbing cuckoo. It is rather common on Guadalcanar island. While at Tulagi, Mr. Hamlin sacked Captain Crookshanks because he insisted on bringing his wife on board again. Captain Barrell took his place. He is an old man of 70 and not very well qualified, being rather rouchy and feeble. Nineteen boxes of shells were sent to the Museum from Tulagi as well as the whale bones and birds.

Early in December (1929) Dr. Mayr, Coultas and I left Tulagi on the Malanta for Kira-Kira on San Cristoval Island. First we stopped at Auki, Malaita for a few hours, where I went ashore and collected some marine shells. The cleanliness and order to be seen in the native villages rather impressed me. We stopped at two other places on the west coast of Malaita before we reached Kira-Kira. At this place the surf is generally pounding hard on the sandy shingly beach and much of the time it is very difficult to land. All of our things were loaded into the steamer's lifeboat and I went ashore with it. We shipped a big wave when we hit the beach and got a lot of our things wet but I quickly got them out of the boat with the help of the native boys and dried them in the sun.

Mr. Campbell the D.O. of San Christoval and owner of the Kira-Kira plantations, came down to the boat-house and kindly invited us all to his house. He has a beautiful place, a fine house and a large plantation which is about a mile long. All of the natives on San Cristobal Island or Makira as they call it, respect him highly. He has much influence with them and his word is law. He has a fine young native wife, who still wears her large white stone ear-plugs two inches in diameter. She is the mother of a nice little boy whom daddy Campbell is rearing in a fashion that will not spoil him.

We spent two days collecting birds in the vicinity of Kira-Kira. We got about 20 species. Mr. Beck had spent over a week in this locality on a previous trip and got about all of the low-land species of birds. He was a marvellous bird collector and has never been equalled probably, but Beck seldom ventured far inland. Most of his work while conducting the Whitney South Sea expedition for 6 years, was done within a day's walk from the schooner France. He nearly always returned to the ship to skin his birds and seldom camped in the bush. In this way he must have missed a lot of the rare mountain birds of the higher altitudes. Mr. Hamlin has done a lot of this kind of work and has made numerous excursions into the mountains, thus bringing back many rare birds.

On the third day we managed to get enough packers together to take us up into the mountains, two days' march inland. The first night we slept in the guest house of a village situated on a flat hill-top. We skinned a few birds until dark. The next day we walked from early morning until evening, crossing a river about 40 times until we finally left it and climbed a steep trail to a mountain village at an elevation of 1800 feet, when we arrived there with our caravan there were no people in the village. They had all fled and were hiding somewhere in the bushes. One of our boys sounded the village signal drum and pretty soon the villagers started to come back a few at a time.

We gave out a few sticks of tobacco to the head man and explained our mission. One of the boys then offered us the use of his large house at the rent of 1 stick of tobacco apiece per day. The villagers also built two temporary shelters for us to eat under and work at skinning birds. We had brought one of our boys from the France with us. This boy whom we called Jack (Makira) was a native of a nearby clan. He proved to be a great help to us. The name of the village is Hanagaraha.

This locality proved to be rich in bird life and the results of our 3 weeks stay brought very good results. I did quite a lot of hunting during the first week but the natives proved to be excellent hunters and good shots, so we let them do nearly all of this work thereafter. Every day they brought in different birds and Dr. Mayr recognized a number of them as New species and subspecies. Having quite a thorough knowledge of New Guinea and Solomon Island birds, he was able to tell at a glance if a species was new. He nearly fainted with delight and excitement when one of the boys brought in a new ? genus of a ground bird. Mayr had to lay off from work the rest of that day; the thrill was too much for his constitution which otherwise is generally quite sound. We had the rare good fortune of having good weather nearly all of the time we spent in the mountains. Skinning birds from early morning until late at night, was our daily routine. Over 500 birds were taken as well as many species of land shells, reptiles and insects etc.

On one occasion there was a big kai kai dance in a village about 4 hours distant. Bill Coultas went to the festivities and had a good time. During the night there was a free for all fight between members of two rival clans, but nobody was seriously hurt.

During the first few days of our visit amongst these Makira bush people, they kept their Marys out of sight. They were kept in a secluded hut on a plantation about a mile away. I discovered this place one day by accident. Later on the Marys were brought home every night from their work and taken to their gardens in the morning by an old man who acted as chaperon.

There was one old fellow that used to visit us every day with the object of receiving a stick of tobacco if possible. Some times he would help us a little. He could not walk very much on account of great cracks in the soles of his feet from yaws. I used to bandage up his feet sometimes. We nicknamed him Marshal Ney because at the big dances that Bill Coultas attended, this old warrior despite his very painful sore feet, fought a brilliant rear guard action around the kai-kai house in the fight that ensued. He dealt out resounding whacks with his club and did a great deal of yelling, coming out of the melee without a scratch. He was rather a comical looking old cuss and we could scarce forbear to laugh every time we saw him come clumping along.

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The only son of the Chief was a very stupid but good-natured boy. He really looked stupid and was dumb so we named him Stupe. However, being the crown prince of the clan, he was the apple of his father's eye and he generally accompanied old dad when he went to the gardens to work or on a fishing trip down to the river. Two or three of the most intelligent boys, we employed as hunters and we thought they were most excellent. They missed very few shots and brought in many good birds that we could never get when we went hunting. "Stupe" tried in vain for a long time to get a chance to hunt for us, but we took it for granted that he would miss most of the birds. I gave him the gun one Sunday afternoon with a couple of cartridges. About an hour afterwards, Stupe came back with a fine rare black hawk, the best bird we had gotten so far. He received a shilling for this bird. The other hunters were envious and ashamed. We paid 1 stick of tobacco (worth 5 per shilling) for every 3 common birds of those kinds that we wanted. A stick was paid for rare birds and a shilling for very rare ones. Five shillings were offered for owls and the rare new ? genus of ground bird. Thereafter we let Stupe hunt every day and simple as he seemed to be, he proved to be very clever after all, or else he had a lot of good luck. In spite of the keen enthusiasm and diligent hunting of the other skilled hunters, it was generally Stupe that brought in the best and rarest birds, and green with envy and humiliation, they goad-

ed themselves to renewed efforts. The old chief just beamed with joy when his son brought in the good birds to the apparent disgust of the other hunters. It was Stupe who brought in the rare new ground bird which gave such a thrill to Dr. Mayr and it was Stupe who brought the rare new owl and many other fine species.

Now with all the skill that he has shown in hunting and the shillings he has received, Stupe has earned the right of having his father to select a Mary for him from a friendly village, so the boy is happy and contented. Some day he will be the head man of his village unless some other boy takes that job away from him.

The bush people are quite tidy with their houses. The Marys are subordinate to their men and generally have to wear second grade or cast off calicos. Money is rather scarce but they have plenty of food. The Marys raise good gardens of taro, yams, sweet potatoes, bananas etc. and in the season they gather large quantities of nally or gallup nuts, which are as well flavored as almonds. We ate a good lot of them every day either raw or baked or mixed with taro pudding. The men also help the Marys with their gardens, but do not exert themselves overly. They add to the family larder however, by occasionally spearing a wild pig, shooting birds with arrows or catching a few fish or eels in the rivers with spears or small pot nets.

They also eat large numbers of fresh water snails, such as Neritina and Melania. Although mountain village life on Makira seems monotonous, still it seems rather an ideal life when one compares it with our own material civilization with its endless worries and disappointments. How much better a life and a happier one does the poor naked bush savage lead than does the average civilized man. Then why is it that missionaries in particular are constantly endeavoring to destroy the peace and harmony that exists amongst the heathens by telling them they are wicked because they cling to their old customs. If only governments would have taken steps years ago to allow only selected missionaries amongst primitive people to teach them useful things and to cure them of disease and not to teach them anything about religion, how much better it would have been. Primitive people do not need Christianity. Most of them could teach us more about real religion and decency than we practice ourselves. The evil that missionaries and stupid colonial governments have wrought upon primitive people, not to mention tourists and commercial enterprises, is rapidly changing or destroying them. To civilize peaceful savages that are contented and happy in their old ways and customs, is a crime. In some cases it would have been more humane to have killed off whole tribes than to force our material civilization and silly religious ideas upon them. I

admire the savage that clings tenaciously to his old life and lives the way that he wants to and the way nature intended him to, providing that he is happy.

We expected the France at Kira-kira on Christmas as had been planned. Three weeks had been spent in the bush and we were running out of necessary supplies to continue our work, although there was plenty of food. Two days before Christmas we started for Kira-kira with about 20 people including 3 Marys. Being on a Sunday, we had much difficulty inducing the natives to start as they thought we would pay them at least double. After a lot of haggling, they finally agreed to carry our packs for the regular amount which was 1 shilling per day. One night enroute to the coast, we spent at the same village that we stopped in when we went into the bush.

At Kira-kira, we spent several days as guests of Mr. Campbell. We had our bush men hunters so we collected about 100 birds in the vicinity. When not skinning, I spent most of the time in exploring the district for land and freshwater shells. The rivers and creeks abound with great numbers of Neritinas and Melanias of about 30 different kinds. Most of them are the same or but slightly different than forms found on other islands of the group visited.

Land shells are also rather prolific in the vicinity of Kira-kira and placostyla miltocheilus , which

is found everywhere, shows a subspecific variation, here, from the ones found at Ugi. Four or five species of Placostyla were found between sealevel and the mountain camp at Havagaraha. There seems to be considerable varietal variation between the low and the higher altitudes in Placostyla and Papuina.

Dr. Mann spent many months on San Cristoval and Ugi islands and was with Mr. Campbell for a long time. He did a lot of collecting on these islands, especially of land shells, ants and reptiles. His shells are in the Harvard Museum. I have duplicates of some of his shells taken on Ugi and on Isabel islands but wish to get more of them when I return to Boston.

Dr. Paravacini, the Swiss ethnologist and naturalist, spent some time here also with Mr. Campbell during this summer. He collected a wide range of material and took many photos. His collections are in Basel.

The France did not come to Kira-kira at Christmas nor did she come at all on account of repairs in the ship-yard at Tulagi had not been completed. We celebrated one Christmas with Mr. Campbell with some of the spirits of good cheer that we had brought for the occasion over a month before. At the same time, Ernest Palmer, a labor recruiter, came in for a visit. Four days later we all went over to Santa Anna island to visit Henry Kuper, the king of Owa-Raha (Santa Anna).

January 1st., 1930. Last night Mr. Campbell, Bill Coultas, Dr. Mayr and I celebrated joyously a belated Christmas and a Happy New Year with our host, Henry Kuper, the King of Santa Anna. With much hilarity and enthusiasm, Kuper, Dr. Mayr and I sang many old German songs. This greatly pleased our host who had not seen any of his own countrymen since the beginning of the War, and only a few during the 18 years of his sojourn in the Solomons. Not having opportunity to have white men as guests except at long intervals, Henry Kuper was in a very loquacious state of mind and he related many anecdotes and stories of personal experiences during his life in the Solomons. Most of them were very interesting.

Several years ago Mr. Kuper made a trip to Vanikoro island in the Santa Cruz group, where the famous French navigator La Perouse with his crew and 2 ships were wrecked. The Australian Museum, a few years before had sent some men to investigate and study the place in Wreck Passage on Vanikoro island, where the tragedy is supposed to have happened. An elaborate report was prepared and published. Henry Kuper was one of the party at the time and helped with the work. At that time he supposed that Wreck Passage was the true locality of the accident. It is quite possible that one of the ships was wrecked there. At a later

time, when the Australian party had left, Mr. Kuper found the exact and true site of the tragedy, at least of one of the ships. This place is many miles from Wreck Passage on quite the opposite side of the island. Mr. Kuper was taken to this unfrequented spot by a party of natives, where they came upon 3 pyramids of stones, about 12 feet high. On the beach were pieces of ancient ships iron too heavy for Natives to carry in their large war canoes. The natives were very superstitious about the place and it was with difficulty that they were induced to dig under one of the pyramids. Among other things, Kuper unearthed an ancient 2 edged sword with a cross hilt and a number of old muskets with the wooden stocks rotted off. These weapons are to be seen in Kuper's house at Santa Anna. On the site of an old hut, he dug up a Spanish dollar struck 2 years before La Perouse left Europe on his last voyage.

The pyramids were probably erected by Dumant D'Urvielle in 1828 when he officially discovered the spot where the Astrolabe and Bule were wrecked. La Perouse met his fate probably about 1786 or 87. Belief is, that the survivors were killed and eaten by the savage islanders, but it is quite possible that many of them died of fevers. It is known that the natives were in possession of the gear of the ships when D'Urveille came there 30 years later.

At Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka, I have seen

a monument to La Perouse in the form of a large round polished boulder with inscriptions carved in Russian letters. An old rusty anchor and chain, said to be from one of the wrecks at Vanikora, is wrapped around the boulder. This was brought by one of the French warships as a memorial when the French came to do homage at the monument dedicated to the dead of both sides in the battle of Petropavlovsk in the Crimean War, when 500 Cossacks under General Savoika, won a brilliant victory over the attacking fleet of British, French and Italian Warships.

Henry Kuper's first Matrimonial venture.

Henry Kuper came to the Solomons about 18 years ago. At that time, there were few Missionaries in the islands and many tribes were hostile. Head hunting and cannibalism flourished on rather an extensive scale. Malaita and San Cristoval islands were particularly noted for their savagry.

Henry decided to settle in the islands and make San Cristoval or Santa Anna island his permanent home. Being a virile young sea captain with adventure in his blood, he was determined to have a healthy young savage Mary for a wife. Having heard from natives of a light skinned young damsel, supposedly a half-caste or possibly a captive white girl that lived in a certain mountain village, our young Lochinvar started off in quest

of the fair maiden. News of his coming and the object of his journey was announced by native signal drum from the coast. This was relayed by other drums to the village where he was going to. A day and a half walk brought him and his carriers to the village. The girl, however, having learned of Kuper's intention, had fled to one of the higher villages. The natives were a suspicious lot and at first showed signs of unfriendliness when he arrived.

A few sticks of tobacco to the chief and an explanation of his mission, made matters satisfactory. As usual, some of the natives brought articles for barter. He bought a fine long bow which an old warrior had proudly demonstrated its strength. Night drawing near, he was given a mat and a bunk in the devil-devil house, which he occupied alone. The entrance was a hole large enough for a man's body to pass thru. Beside the bunk in a corner was a pile of betel nuts for general use. Not being sure of the friendliness of the villagers, he slept in rather a tension with his Colt ready at hand.

Suddenly he felt a sharp blow on the head as a spear slithered past and rattled as it fell amongst the betel nuts. Instantly awake and on his feet, he grabbed the revolver and quickly slipped out of the hole in the wall and walked around the house, but saw nobody. He kept vigilant watch thruout the night until dawn, ready to shoot anything that moved. Just

before the break of day, he saw some one coming toward him. He was just going to pull the trigger when he saw it was an old woman going out to her taro patch to work. Then he went back into the house to look for the spear. He found it and picked it up, when to his surprise it proved to be the bow that he had purchased the day before. The bow string being taut had broken under the strain of dampness, and banged Kuper on the head.

Negotiations were then made to purchase the young lady, whom Henry had not yet seen. After much haggling, the transaction was finally accomplished for half a case of strong stick tobacco and some calico. The next job was to catch the wild young female, who did not relish the idea at all of being sold so unceremoniously to a white stranger, who for all she knew might make a stew out of her. When the boys grabbed her, she broke away and let out a terrible scream and dashed under the floor of the devil devil house, where she imagined the spirits would protect her. She crawled as far as she could where it was so low that only a small person could lie. She refused to come out, so it was necessary to use long sharp poles to prod and push her out. Then she was tied up and trussed like a hog with vines onto a pole and carried down the mountain to the coast.

Arriving at the beach, they were met by a labor recruiter who had just brought back some

indentured boys. Amongst them was one who was engaged to the girl that had just been purchased. He had worked 7 years to save up enough money, tobacco and calico, to pay for her. Both he and the girl loved each other and were much agrieved at the outcome of their engagement. Mr. Kuper and the boy argued the point over the matter. However when Kuper now looked at her for the first time at close range and saw what a bedraggled and wretched looking specimen of a female she actually was, he decided that she looked as ugly as sin. She was not even a half caste, but just a light skinned dilapidated wild and naked savage. He knew he could never learn to love her and that she would probably never like him either. He then sold her to the boy who did love her. The new husband also had to pay the father an extra sum. Then everybody was satisfied and happy. Thus ended the first matrimonial venture of Captain Henry Kuper of Hamburg.

Jan. 2nd, 1930. (Wed.). I walked down the coast from Kuper's house and gathered land and marine shells. Santa Anna is covered with coral and phosphate rock. The marine shells are mostly the same as elsewhere in the Solomons. There are a number of rocky reefs that are subject to the incessant heavy pounding of surf. Shells are scarce, but those that do cling to the rocks, are very thick and strongly built. Small shells are blown in from

deep water and mixed with the drift on the beach. I collected over 30 species of cowries but no orange cowrie. Mr. Kuper said that after a heavy blow, one time, he picked up 17 of these rare and beautiful shells. Some of them were perfectly matched and fresh.

On the opposite side of Santa Anna Island, the rocky reefs are still more exposed to the sweep of the surf, and shells are very scarce. It is only a 20 minutes walk across the island. The men from the two villages on the other side come over to the Henry Kuper side to do most of their fishing. Catching prawns at night with aid of torches and spearing surf fish in the day time, besides using a dip net for small fishes are the common methods of fishing employed. The last great chief of Santa Anna, old Bagga Bagga, father-in-law of Henry Kuper, lost his life fishing for prawns at night on the reefs.

Fishing for bonitos is however, the grand sport of Santa Anna, and when the first shoal of these fish are sighted, there is much activity amongst the people in launching their canoes and pursuing them. Every ten years is the great ceremonial feast and dance of initiating the young men to full manhood. Preparations are made for months and then it is necessary to wait until a shoal of bonitos appear. Each boy must be baptized with the blood of a bonito and must eat these fish out of sacred carved wooden bowls in the sacred canoe house which contains the skulls

of their chiefs and great warriors.

It was here on Santa Anna that Martin Johnson first became famous thru the pictures that he took of the great ceremonial dances that Henry Kuper and his wife had staged for them. This was the last big ceremonial feast of its kind that has been performed and it is doubtful whether another one will ever be performed. The chief actors and men of influence have died. Old Bagga Bagga and the famous old devil devil man of Santa Anna are gone. Mrs. Kuper and some of the lesser chiefs are still capable of performing the ceremonies and dances which are elaborate and intricate, but it is expensive and laborious.

On overhanging ledges of lime phosphate rock lives a pretty Littorina that I did not find elsewhere and there is a species of Tectarices, very similar to T. muricatus of the W. Indies in the same habitat. They are found at high tide mark in rocky holes and crevices. Helcioniscus and many other species of limpets occur on the reefs.

The land shells are quite similar to those of Kira-kira, San Cristoval Island, but there are subspecific differences in many of them. Placostyla miltocheilus which is found on San Cristoval and on Ugi and has a pink lip on those islands, is superficially the same on Santa Anna but has a pure white lip and is often amber colored thruout. It is possible that the phosphate

rock has something to do with the difference in color. About a dozen species of small land shells are found in debris and under dead palm leaves. They are of the same genera as found in similar habitats thruout the British Solomons. About 25 species of land shells were taken on Santa Anna. Scarabeus is almost identical with specimens from Bougainville, Shortland's, Choiseul, San Cristoval and Papua. It is widely distributed thruout the group and is always found behind mangrove swamps near the sea and in the adjacent forests on the ground. They represent a transitional stage in evolution of a mollusk gradually having left the sea and become a land shell. Often they are living just immediately beyond the drift line. So far I have not found more than 4 or 5 species, with numerous variations. Altho the animal prefers the proximity of the sea coast, I have found it on Choiseul Island 10 miles inland at an elevation of 800 feet. At Kieta it is very abundant along the shore road under damp leaves. They are often eaten by the natives of that district.

January 3rd.-Thursday. Rained heavily all day. Spent the day in writing letters.

January 4th.-Friday. Two natives hunted birds-- We skinned them all afternoon. Nothing new.

Mr. Kuper has been over on his other plan-

tation at Star Harbor for 2 days. It was too stormy for him to return right away. Mrs. Kuper is a very amiable hostess and treats us like a mother.

January 5th.-Saturday. Santa Anna- Owa Raha.

Mr. Kuper returned from Star Harbor. We skinned birds most of the day but cannot continue as the arsenic and corn meal is all finished.

January 6th.-Sunday. Missionaries have made considerable progress on the Henry Kuper side of the island and most of the native culture is fast disappearing in that village. On the other side however, thanks to Mr. Kuper's guidance and efforts, the natives are still unspoiled and preserve much of their ancient culture and religion, which is certainly superior to that which some of the missionaries have imposed on certain tribes. It is also better than that on the other side of the island. Mr. Kuper has taught the people to build their houses better and to keep the villages in sanitary condition. One of the villages he caused to be remodeled in such a way that there is a wide street or village green in the middle where dances, games or markets are held. Pigs are not allowed to wander about but are kept within stone enclosures and fed on cocoanuts.

This afternoon, Mr. Kuper took us over to

the other side of the island, about 20 minutes walk. Permission was given by the head chief to go into the sacred skull and canoe house and Mr. Coultas took some photos. No female is allowed to ever enter or pass by this house. There are two canoe houses, one of which contains the skulls and arm and leg bones of chiefs and famous warriors. They are placed in small dug out canoes, suspended from the rafters. Bunches of bonito skeletons from the last great ceremonial festival also hang from the rafters. A big pile of betel nut shells is also left from this feast. There are piles of carved and inlaid wooden bowels and many weapons of curious design. The war canoes, which nowadays are used for peaceful purpose, are beautifully designed. One of the canoes is brand new and another is in the process of construction. This fine work becomes a lost art soon after missionaries come to teach salvation.

Most of the people wear huge white stone or wooden discs in their ears and many of them have tapered shell sticks in their noses. The Marys go about stark naked except for ear plugs and dog or flying fox tooth necklaces. Some of the older Marys wear a cord about the loins with a bunch of strings about 4 inches wide. A few of them wear calicos. Mr. Coultas took a number of photos of women and old men.

Later in the afternoon, we climbed up a rough coral phosphate cliff to a small plateau about

400 feet high. We visited several caves which were inhabited by swarms of small bats and swifts. In former times when war parties occasionally came over from Malaita or San Cristoval, the women and children lived in these caves and tended their gardens in the vicinity.

The soil is fertile on this plateau and good crops are raised. The common rail or gallinule (porphyrio) is here so common that it is a real pest. A new fence of interwoven horizontally laid palm leaves has been built and covers several acres. This is to keep out the rails which are very numerous and are a menace to the yam and sweet potato crops.

In a palm tree was a large colony of social starling nests (Aplonis metallica).

While walking through the woods, we met an old woman and her beautiful daughter of about 18 years. The young lady was unusually fine built and pretty and unadorned. For a stick of tobacco, she permitted her photo to be taken.

On top of the plateau, we sat down and viewed the ocean. Being a clear day, it was possible to see far-lying islands and islets. We could see Owa Riki in the distance where the people are still all naked savages and where customs and culture are still unspoiled. Unfortunately, we did not have time nor facility to visit Owa Riki. Few

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outsiders ever visit that island. Below us was a lake about a third of a mile long.

January 7th.-Monday. In the afternoon, I made a trip to the lake which is about 10 minutes walk from Kuper's house. It is situated in a depression in the forest about a quarter of a mile from the sea. It is roughly oval and about 1/3 mile long by a quarter mile wide. Mr. Kuper said that the level is generally about the same except at intervals of many years when a long draught has caused it to recede to the deeper parts. In time of continuous rains, it has been known to swell considerably. It has apparently no inlet or outlet and the water has a peculiar saline, phosphate taste. A good deal of phosphate has been washed as fine silt into the lake by heavy rains so the concentrated solution in time of prolonged draught when the lake is partially dried up, must attain a strong degree of salinity. Still it does not destroy the animals that live in it. One of the natives caught fish, a kind of trout, when the lake had shrunken to its smallest size in twenty years.

Being a coral limestone country with plenty of caves scattered over the island, it is likely that there must be an underground outlet of this lake, although nobody knows of one. It is close to the ocean and the presence of trout of a species found in most of

the streams thruout the Br. Solomons, seems to indicate this. There is no evidence of the lake having increased to a much larger size. The trout found in the lake are able to stand a higher degree of salinity than ordinary brook trout,and those living in rivers and creeks very likely spend part of their lives in the salt water.

There are no canoes on the lake, but sometimes the Natives of Santa Anna carry one or two of them over there to use for fishing or hunting. Mr. Kuper once tried to fathom the depths, but the results were disappointing. The western end is shallow and the bottom is oozy mud. The eastern end is more rocky or stony, but is deep. The greatest depth was about 160 feet, but the bottom was so soft that the lead sunk deeper and deeper.

When the lake is receding, it is very dangerous to approach, unless one knows the character of the treacherous bottom and avoids treading anywhere upon it. At that time, a crust forms over the surface and it looks like solid hard ground. Some years ago, Mr. Kuper went to the lake with an old man to hunt crocodiles. Walking out on a log, he blithely stepped off, thinking it was safe to walk upon. Instantly he went down out of sight, but had presence of mind to hold the rifle high above his head. In another moment he would have sunken too far down if the Kanaka had not grabbed the gun and started to haul him up. In his excitement, Kuper accidently pulled the trigger, the

bullet grazed the chin of the native. The old man had pluck, however, and did not let go. He kept on pulling until he had Mr. Kuper safely on the log.

Crocodiles are sometimes seen in the lake and were formerly quite numerous before Kuper and other white men shot most of them. Formerly, when the natives let their pigs run at large in the villages and in the woods, it was not uncommon for crocodiles to come near the village and steal a porker or a pickaninny. This species of crocodile is the common estuarine (crocodilus porosus) which ranges from the Persian Gulf to Queensland and the Solomon Islands. It is at home in either salt or fresh water. At certain times of the year, some of the females come to the lake to lay eggs.

One of the boys brought in several today. I sampled one of them but the flavor is not very good. As an omelet or in cooking, it might pass fairly well, but a crocodile egg has too much albumen and is rather a gooey morsel that can only be relished by one that is very hungry.

I partially explored the lake and it looks rather unpromising. Most of the bottom is rotten with stinking ooze. The water tastes of an infusion of phosphate and decaying vegetation. There are a few water insects and a number of microscopic organisms.

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I found only one species of mollusk, a Melania, which is endemic. It is very common.* Every sweep of the

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* This is Melania Guppyi (Smith) described from a single specimen taken from the stomach of a fish caught in the lake by a native.

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hand brought up several out of the soft mud. As I did not visit the other end of the lake where there is gravel and shallow water, there may be more mollusks.

January 8th.-Tuesday. Mrs. Henry Kuper and her three sons had their photos taken with their native costumes. She is the oldest daughter and heir of the last hereditary chief of Owa Raha. She possesses a fine collection of the best grades of shell money and necklaces of dog, porpoise and flying fox teeth. These constitute the crown jewels of the potentates of this island for the past two centuries. A couple of perfect orange cowries also belong to the collection.

This island being rather isolated beyond the south end of San Cristoval island, has a bird fauna with a number of species and subspecies that are characteristic. It is rather a good example of subspecific variation in both birds and shells on a small island only separated by less than 10 miles of water from a large island. Ugi is also such an one with surprising

subspecific differences on a small island adjacent to a large one. Long separation is evidently the chief cause for these differences.

The grey pigeon, Ducula pacifica is larger; the bush hen, Megapodius reinward, is not so robust and the feet and claws are not so heavy and strong as on San Cristoval Island. The common reef heron (Demigretta sacra) inclines toward albinistic phases on Santa Anna. Some of them are nearly pure albino and most of them are partly. On other islands such phases are quite rare. Even Chalcoenas Nicobaricus, the widely distributed nicobar pigeon show minor variation in color of plumage and average weight. The thick head (Pachycephala), is different from the one on other islands and the call note is decidedly different from the one on San Cristoval Island. It is larger than the one on Choiseul Island. It has a blacker ring around the head, yellow breast is brighter and back is not uniform greenish yellow as in the bird from Choiseul.

Besides the 19 species of birds taken by us on Santa Anna, I saw 12 other species. They were the common wagtail, eagle hawk, 2 sp. terns, cormorant, frigate bird, 2 sp. sandpipers, curlew, knot, small bush heron and one other wader.

Mr. Beck was here with the France about 2 years ago and made quite a thoro collection of the birds

of Santa Anna, but we do not know just what he got.

Two birds which Beck also got are apparently ebdemic. One of them is a flycatcher and the other a Ptilinopus.

January 9th.-Wednesday. Santa Anna.- owa Raha. Pansy Elder came today with the govt. medical boat Heigeia to bring us back to Tulagi. We have been waiting over two weeks for the France, but she cannot come because she is still undergoing repairs. A heavy Northwester has been pounding the reefs for days, but last night Pansy tried to make a landing at Kira Kira thru the heavy surf with his skillful Sikiana boat's crew, but it was impossible. He thought we were still there and wanted to get us. Lucky for us that we are here or there would be no telling as to when we could get back to the France and would probably have to impose ourselves indefinitely upon the hospitality of our kind and generous host.

Pansy brought beer and food supplies from the France. We did a little celebrating with the beer, packed up our things and left the food supplies with Mr. Kuper. Pansy had been up all night and drinking as usual, so he was rather dopey and under the weather as a result of an attack of fever.

January 10th.-Thursday. Aboard the Heigeia.

We left our anchorage of the previous night and proceeded to Guadalcanar Island, where we stopped 1/2 hour at a plantation called Rerry (Rere) - We sailed all day and the following night with frequent rain squalls. I had to sleep on a narrow bench exposed to a lot of sloppy weather, so my blankets and clothes were soaked by rain and spray.

January 12th.-Saturday. Arrived at Merow sound plantation in the forenoon. I went ashore and gathered a few wave-worn shells. This beach is exposed to heavy blows and is composed mostly of cobble-stones. Molluscan life is poor and the species are mostly common. A few cones and cowries and Strombers that I picked up have extremely heavy shells which were well adapted in life to protect the animals inside when rolled or dashed amongst the stones.

At this place we picked up two Scotch ladies. Pansy was in rather a sweat on account of the long time it took for them to get ready. At last they came aboard quite blithely and for some time they were bright and hilarious, but after about an hour or so, they became quite out of sorts. The wind was blowing hard with frequent rain squalls. They first tried lying in Pansy's bunk, but it was too warm there, then they went down into the mess room which was worse and

of course the poor women made a real mess of it. At last they were content to lie on the deck and get drenched by the rain and spray.

The steering gear went out of commission in the storm, but Pansy is well known in the islands for his ingenuity as well as his geniality. It was not long before he had rigged up an improvised nail (tiller) for the rudder.

We got to Tulagi about 10 P.M. and went to Bob Sterling's pub for beer and kai-kai. The boys were having a very hilarious gambling game. Much cursing and needless shouting gave zest to the game. But there were no casualties.

It was too late to go to the France, so we slept on the deck of the Heigeia again.

January 13th.-Sunday.- Tulagi- The France has been well repaired by Chang Chong but no money has arrived from the Museum for 8 months. We must stay here until funds come. The expedition has been held up and delayed many times for lack of available money to carry on the work but that seems to be the rule with many an expedition. It is not a good policy, however, because unnecessary expenses are incurred and the work is not done, which could be performed with enough money to carry on with.

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January 14th.-Monday- Tulagi- Mr. Hamlin gave the sack to the four Polynesians, Teora Poherni and Manuel Tehei of Tahiti and Charlie Thineas and David Laban of Samoa. They were good seamen and excellent bird skinners but had been spoiled too much by kindness for general good use and asked for a raise in pay once too often. David was the best bird skinner and Manuel the best seaman. They had been on the ship for over 5 years and needed a change.

January 15th.-Tuesday-Tulagi- I went over to Chang Chong's boat shop today and packed two boxes for myself.

We have a new cook on the France, Leong On. He is rather a dopey looking Celestial; also a Solomon island boy named Aravo from Ulava bay. Our San Cristoval island boy Makira Jack Hairago is still with us and is the only one left of the crew when I came aboard. We also have 2 boys from Santa Cruz islands. They are similar to Solomon islanders.

The Polynesians are going to Noumea, New Caledonia instead of to their respective countries.

Dr. Mayr is troubled about whether to stay here with the expedition or go back to Berlin. He has been offered Dr. Hartert's position at the Tring Museum as Curator of Melanesian birds. He is awaiting answer to telegram to Dr. Streseman of Berlin Museum.

January 16th. Wednesday- Tulagi- Captain Burrell, our old Scotch skipper, came aboard this morning without his pants. He gave the Chinese cook hell for going ashore whenever he wished without permission to use the small boat.

Bill Coultas typewrited a list of Choiseul and San Cristoval island birds. I am labeling the birds of San Cristoval and Santa Anna. There are about 500 specimens of about 60 species.

Hamlin received $1500. from the Museum. He then cabled for $10,000. to pay debts and to make the trip to the Carolines.

Hamlin officially turned over the leadership of the Whitney South Sea Expedition to Bill Coultas. Bill is getting very industrious now.

Gold has been discovered near Kieta, Bougainville island, by a New Guinea miner.

January 17th-Thursday. The Chinese cook left the ship yesterday morning and has not returned. Either he has fever or is afraid of the Captain or has been smoking too much opium.

I worked on labels today.

I went to the hospital and had my left ear tested. The doctor declared that the eardrum is perforated and that I can never hear with that ear again. I also have two small bald patches on my head which I

got from scratching with arsenic under finger nails.

January 18th.-Friday-Tulagi- Bill and I packed the birds ready for shipment in a large match case. More mail today. Bill still has a bad sore on his foot that he got in the bush in December. He doctors it several times per day.

January-19th.-Saturday. I made a collection of small shells on the point near Tulagi hospital and added about a dozen new species to the collection. This is really a good locality for rare minute shells after a heavy blow. I made a few repairs on the ship.

January 20th.-Sunday. I built a book cabinet etc. and wrote a few letters.

January 21st.-Monday. I went to Chang Chong's boat house for a piece of lumber for the engine bed. Also packed a few curios and shells. Hamlin has the engine going now.

January 22nd.-Tuesday. I did more carpenter work and went to P.O.

January 23rd.-Wednesday. We left Tulagi today. First, went to Gavuta at Lever's plantation and headquarters. This is well laid out and there are good buildings and stores. The dock is made of concrete. The Major, who is the chief, has a small botanical garden composed mostly of ferns, orchids, etc. He calls it the fernery.

We spent the evening as guests of some

of the men.

Lever's employ an efficient system, but it is too mathematically correct. This does not appeal very much to the native laborers, so the Company is in continual need of recruits. Few of the boys like to work for Levers. It is a problem to be solved in the future in view of labor shortage and ever decreasing numbers amongst the natives.

January 24th. We left Gavuta this morning and stopped for the tide in Boli passage, Florida Is. The engine is working fine. I went ashore with Dr. Mayr near the Church of England Mission (Mr. Tempest) and had a bath in the creek. I collected a number of shells including 8 new ones. The soil at this place is very poor and will not grow much. Even cocoanuts have a hard time. There are some excellent reefs for shell collecting, but I did not have time to explore them.

January 25th.-Between Florida and Malaita.- We left Boli early in the morning and headed for Malaita. I made another book case. In the evening we dropped the hook in Auki harbor, Malaita. I was ashore here in November while aboard the Malaita while bound for Kira-kira. This place until recent years was the abode of hostile savages

Arissimai and Bassiano of Malaita.

Malaita has long been noted as harboring

of the men.

the fiercest and most dangerous savages in the Pacific. The island has had such a bad name that no explorers have ever attempted serious work for fear of being murdered. Only a few white men have crossed the island and when they did, it was always in a hurry. Perpetual feuds between mountain bushmen and Saltwater men and petty strife between villages have made intractable savages out of many of these people.

Many years ago, it was not an uncommon occurance for small ships to be boarded, their crews killed and eaten and goods stolen. Such practice is not carried on today on account of fear of government chastisement. In former days many a hostile village in the Solomons was bombarded by gunboats as reprisal for treacherous murdering. The Saltwater men learned from bitter experience that the white man's weapons were more effective than their own efforts in fighting with primitive weapons. A far more dangerous method than organized fighting forces were employed and it is still in vogue on Malaita. Professional killers are hired for certain sums by any one that will pay the price. These men are much feared by all of the natives and they gladly feed and treat them well when one of the scoundrels happens along on one of his frequent visits. They help to keep the natives within the law, especially as regards social relations with women or in slandering one another, for it is easy for the offended

one to hire a man killer and have the deed done secretly without bothering himself about it.

Although Malaita men have long been used as indentured workers, in Queensland and in the Br. Solomons and in Fiji etc., there are many bad eggs amongst them. They are the strongest, most active and willing workers in all Melanesia. Taking them as a whole, they are considered quite a bad lot and if they have things their own way, they are not much to be trusted too much. Malaita men have had more contact with white men and they have traveled farther than the average native of the group. They are intelligent and quick witted and can drive hard bargains. Theur villages are clean and neat and have more modern accessories and adopted features from the white man than one finds as a rule in other islands of the Solomons. Still there are head-hunters and cannibals amongst them. These are in some of the mountains districts where the law is not so effective. Such practices are kept quite secret now, however.

Norman Deck, the Missionary on Malaita, claims the distinction of being the first white man to cross the island. Being a very devout man, he accomplished this feat of valor by putting his trust in the Lord and without stopping at any villages to rest, he read the Bible aloud whenever he met natives on the

trail and at night he camped in the bush. Since that time other white men including Mr. King (Koenig) D.O. of Malaita, Mr. Campbell, D.O. of San Cristoval and Dr. Mann (naturalist) from Harvard crossed Malaita. The crowning achievement of the season, however, is a new record for women. Mr. Deck's sister and another woman, both missionaries, crossed Malaita a few months ago. Solomon islanders have a reverence or awe for white women, especially for missionaries, so the danger was probably not great. Such a thing as ravishing a white woman in Melanesia is almost unknown, especially in these times. However, years ago, there were about a dozen nuns and priests murdered at a Mission on Isabel by semi-Christianized cannibals.

Arissimai and Bassiano were two of the most notorious killers of modern Malaita.[1] The former

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[1] 65 heads.

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was killed several years ago while Bassiano was hanged in Tulagi last year as the murderer of Mr. Bell and as the chief instigator of the Sinarango Massacre. Both of these men are said to have murdered about one hundred people each, so they were greatly feared for their daring, cunning treachery and fiendish cruelty. Arissimai was more feared on account of his low-minded bestiality and because he practised the arts of black magic. According to native information, he was so feared by some

that in several cases he caused the death of men by informing them that he would soon kill them. He was a hideously disfigured man with tattoos and barbaric ornaments arranged in such manner as to make his features still more ugly. He ate parts of his victims whenever he could get away with them.

Henry Kuper had met Arissimai on more than one occasion. He said it was his habit to sleep by day in caves or in temporary shelter in the deep forests and prowl around at nights. He was generally accompanied by one or two subordinates who kept watch and helped him with his nefarious work. He was very nervous and high strung and would easily fly into a terrible rage at slight provocation.

About 15 years ago Mr. Kuper was anchored not far from a small village on San Cristoval island. Another white man, a recruiter, was also there with his launch. At that time the people of that district were cannibals. Arissimai had just landed somewheres and had been seen with two Marys that he had brought from Malaita. He was soon sighted and narrowly escaped to his canoe after killing one man. It is not known definitely whether he shot the native or whether the other white man killed the native by mistake for he also tried to get Arissimai. Immediately a crowd of howling cannibals lined the beach with the two Marys of Arissimai as

victims. Mr. Kuper saw them cut the throats of the women and build fires. He did not consider it a healthy place to stop there longer, so he heaved up anchor.

Malaita could well be nicknamed the island of batchelors and celibates, for about 1/4 of the men never get married or have a woman because they cannot save up enough money or worldly goods to purchase a Mary. Malaita men as a rule are very puritanical in their morals and are with few exceptions monogamists. Like the old Puritans, they are often bitterly unjust and unnecessarily cruel to persons guilty of adultery.

It is only those boys who have plenty of goods or whose families have sufficient wealth that can afford to purchase a Mary. A boy will sometimes work for 10 years on a plantation striving to save enough money out of 1 pound per month pay, to buy him a wife. This custom is gradually dying out however, especially where the natives have embraced Christianity. Amongst the mountain bush clans, they still cling obstinately to this custom and they are very rigid in their code of morals. A wife generally costs about 100 pounds or more. I know one boy at Suu that paid 200 pounds for his Mary.

The method of payment is to give a large wedding feast with plenty of pigs and all kinds of food. Cash payment is made to the father of the bride in the form of strings of red and white shell money, Shillings,

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calicos and ornaments. Sometimes the groom is so heavily indebted to relatives and other members of his clan that he and his naked wife must work the rest of their lives to save for the payments. Even in death, the debt is generally still hanging on so at the funeral of the woman a last attempt is made to liquidate the debt by practical confiscation of her heirlooms if she has any.

Code of morals amongst primitive people seems to have much to do with the monetary value of women where women are scarce, women have a high commercial value and immorality is severely dealt with, while in such tribes where women are more numerous than the men, morals as a rule are often slack and there is very little petty jealousy. Where the code of morals is strict, the people may be a stronger and sturdier race, but they are generally harsh, cruel and narrow-minded, while where the reverse standard is practised, the people are generally vivacious and happier-minded. At least this seems to be true in the S. Sea islands.

A generation ago on Malaita, it was a common practice in case of proven adultery between a man and a married woman, to torture both individuals to death. The woman was sometimes seized and hung from a branch by one foot and shot full of arrows until she resembled a porcupine. The vagina was then cut out and smoked over a fire and used as an arm band or as an article of barter worth

about 4 shillings.

If the man could be captured alive, he was sometimes sold to a neighboring chief who wished to dedicate a war canoe with a human sacrifice. On the appointed day when the canoe was to be launched, a great feast was given. The condemned man was then tied outside of the canoe house. First the chief came out and gave a speech to the warriors who were to man the war canoe, then he seized a sharp knife and cut off a piece of flesh and cooked and ate it before the eyes of the victim. The devil-devil man caught the blood in a bowl and with a bunch of grass which he dipped into it, he sprinkled the seats of the canoe. Each warrior in turn cut off a strip of flesh and ate it, while the priest continued his baptism of blood.

Nowadays a jealous husband sometimes kills his wife with an axe if she is guilty, or he may simply give her a severe flogging. The guilty man is generally put under arrest, in which case, he must pay a fine and work as a prisoner for 6 months or a year for the gov't. It sometimes happens that a seducer will kill a woman in her garden and hide the body, so no witness can be born against him.

Jealous husbands returning from years of indentured service are often quite concerned about the virtue of their Marys while they were absent. A wife

about a shilling.

sometimes put thru an ordeal called the fire test. After accusing her and berating her of infidelity and she persistently proclaiming her innocence, he will sometimes seize a red hot fire brand and pass it slowly over her body. If she cries out loudly with pain, she is considered guilty. This is undoubtedly a novel and effective method. Another punishment for infidelity is to burn the soles of the feet. This method is also used in some parts of Papua.

It is remarkable that there are practically no white half castes in the Br. Solomon islands amongst Melanesians except the few born from legitimate marriage. In all of the British Solomons there are probably less than 30 half castes and these are practically legitimate or at least provided for by the fathers.

On January 26th, 1930, the France arrived at Auki, Malaita in the Maramasiki lagoon district. A few years ago this region was still the scene of much fighting between bushmen and saltwater men who waged perpetual warfare whenever opportunity offered. This fighting was mostly in the form of treacherous murdering and often followed by eating the slain. The village of Auki, compactly built on a small sand-bar a few hundred yards from the shore, has been improved and built up with partial walls surrounding it made of coral blocks. Nobody seems to know when it was first built, but the original founders were probably

remnants of a harassed clan of salt water bushmen that found security from the attacks of their dreaded enemies, the mountain bushmen or else it was to escape the malaria mosquitoes.

We arrived on a Sunday. I went ashore to the mainland to hunt birds. Passing thru a village I was just in time to see a small caravan of bush Marys bringing in loads of taro, yaws, sweet potatoes and other garden products. These were exchanged for fresh fish, fishing being the chief industry of the salt water men. I met two of our boys that had worked on the France as cook boys a few months before. One of them introduced me to the chief who could talk good pigeon. He said that they were preparing a big feast for the morrow with a big dance which would last 3 days. The Bushmen and the Saltwater men being at peace and having intermarried considerably in late years, this celebration was to be given by the Saltwater men to show their good will. We were cordially invited to come to the feast the next day.

In the morning Dr. Mayr and I went hunting and returned in time to see the first few dances on the shore. Hamlin and Coultas took a lot of pictures. The serpentine dance of the elligible males of the bush clan was very interesting and curious. Adorned with ear plugs, nose ornaments, teeth necklaces,

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tatooed bodies and cockatoo feathers in the hair and with bunches of rattle seeds on the right leg of each dancer, they stomped and leaped and capered about in perfect rythm to the peculiar but pleasing jerky notes of the orchestra blowing on pipes of pan made of bamboo. After doing several dances for about three hours, there was great activity in scrambling into all the available canoes and rowing over to the fortified atoll village. There, dancing was resumed again, the Marys all keeping themselves in the distance. Twenty-five big huskers were to be slaughtered in the morning for the big kai-kai and tons of taro-cocoanut puddings and other dainties with plenty of green cocoanuts, yams, taro, sweet-potatoes and fish were to be consumed. Moreover, the ceremony of feeding the sharks was to be performed by the devil-devil man to insure against drowning and accident at sea.

The next day after finishing our bird hunt we came in time to witness the feeding of the sharks. It was not as successful as it had been hoped for. About nine small man-eating sharks were soon induced to come up to the base of the wall where the priest doled out their rations of fresh piggy-pig, which was speedily devoured. It had been hoped for and expected that the grandfather of the sharks, a huge monster that is regularly fed by these people

should come during the occasion, but evidently he had urgent business elsewhere.

These natives of the walled village of Auki devoutly worship the shark god and believe that he is their protector in time of storm while at sea in their canoes. They say that the shark will not molest them, the people of Auki because they reverence and feed him.

Last summer while the France was anchored in Choiseul bay, one night we caught two large man-eating sharks. Our two Auki boys were very much distressed over this incident. Altho nominally Christians, they still reverenced the shark. Seeing them dead on the deck, they wept and were very melancholy and quite despondent for several days. They acted much as tho they had lost their parents.

Many years ago while crossing Auki bay one day during rough weather a large canoe was overturned. A big shark came right amongst the swimmers. He made no attempt to molest them but promptly gathered up the baskets and then righted the overturned canoe. However, sharks are very bad in some parts of the Solomons. While we were on San Cristoval island at Christmas time, there was a big kai kai dance at one of the neighboring villages. One of the canoes was upset in rough weather while bound for the feast. It contained a lot of fresh pork. The sharks ate the pork and the chief and another man.

At Auki we visited the D.O. Mr. Wilson to

get permission to make an excursion into the bush. He advised us not to go far into the bush and to keep out of the interior. He would not guarantee any protection for us there. Then he told us a lot of awful stories about hostile and treacherous mountain bushmen but as he had never been farther than a day's march inland, he could not speak from personal experience. However he knows the Saltwater men quite well and there are plenty of scoundrels amongst them. The most frequent causes for murder are the use of foul and abusive language and adultery. To appease the offended person's wrath, it is necessary for the offender or a relative to pay at least 2 fathoms of white shell money, otherwise the offended is liable to kill the first relative of the offender that he meets without provocation. In case of using abusive language it matters little whether he takes the life of the offender or someone else. Mr. Wilson said "Only a few days before a man accused his nephew of illicit relation with his foster mother. The accusation was merely intended as an insult while in a fit of anger. The offended boy thereupon grabbed an axe and killed his foster brother.

Missionaries have done considerable work on the coast of Malaita and several of them have tried for many years to Christianize the mountain bushmen, most of whom have worked on plantation. Both Mr.

Humphreys and Dr. Beck who are very keen on spreading the gospel on this island have declared that all attempts to convert the mountain bushmen have met with failure. Dr. Deck was the first white man to walk across Malaita and several men have done so since. Mr. Koenig, the chief of Police of Malaita, also has visited most parts of the island with his police boys. He is a seasonal veteran of the New Guinea wilda and has really done the best work on Malaita. Dr. Deck said that when he crossed Malaita, whenever he met armed men on the trail, he walked right past them reading the Bible aloud and did not look up.

Amongst the Saltwater men are a certain class of men that act as labor recruiters and confidence men and go-betweens with white men altho the latter generally detest them. I met such an one today whom we knew quite well in Tulagi. This was one-armed Charlie who had lost his arm by a stick of dynamite while shooting fish. He gleans many an easy pound from his simple country men by various methods of business. Some time ago he canvassed some of the bush villages and cleaned up 80 pounds by promising them that he would bring them a herd of bullamacows from Tulagi at 3 pounds per head advance money. In the first place there are no cattle at Tulagi. In that town, he also cleaned up some money amongst a certain number of white men who must have been imbibing too freely, as is the custom there. For 4 pounds each advance payment, he agreed to bring them plenty of Marys from Santa Anna, but of course

this was an idle promise.

Hunting birds around Auki produced poor results. Several species taken showed sub-specific variation but there is nothing rare there. Desirable birds are scarce and common species are very common. The usual freshwater and brackish water shells were taken from the river. Most of the land shells are different than on adjacent islands. We collected a new frog, a snake and an opossum. I bought a fine large necklace of human front and eyeteeth stained jet black on the tips. These are supposed to have been from slain enemies. Very few trinkets and curios can be obtained on Malaita nowadays.

On January 31st. we sailed to Suu, Malaita about 40 miles from Auki. Suu is what one might call the capital of Malaita. There are several chinamen and about 300 natives and 18 white people. There is a hospital, general store, D.O. house, saw-mill, boat repair shop, Mission, copra shed, cement pier and a large cocoanut plantation belonging to the Melanesian Mission. The nuts are not doing so well as they should. Insects ravage the flowers and young nuts. A species of yellow ant is the enemy of this cocoanut ravaging bettle, but the little black ants devour the yellow ants. The latter do not like to go thru the grass on account of their enemies. A remedy

for this has been found by laying long rows of palm fronds on the ground leading to the trees for the yellow ants to run on. The black ants however, are a most persistent menace and very difficult to get rid of. Glue and various sticky substances have been tried without success for the ants get across the bands of glue by bridging themselves. Grauculus papuensis, the cocoanut tree grey birds, probably destroys much of the vermin on the trees, but the company expects to introduce Indian Mina birds from Cape Marsh, where they are used by Levers Co. with much success against the bettles. The native Mina birds do not frequent the cocoanut palms and are generally in high trees in the forests.

Suu used to be a bad place for hostile and treacherous natives but the Saltwater men and salt-water bushmen are nowadays quite peaceful. The mountain bushmen are still dangerous in spite of severe reprisals on the part of the government. The terrible massacre by the punitive expedition as a result of the ambush of Mr. Bell and Mr. Lilly and 14 police boys at Sinarango has considerably dampened the ardor of the murdering head hunting bands. This happened in October 1927.

January 31st.- Suu- I went hunting this morning and got 10 birds. Dr. Mayr got a few also. Grauculus papuensis, Monarcha menadensis, Diceum and the

red honeysucker.

There are several rivers in the vicinity of Suu. The shells are of the same species as those of San Cristoval and most of the other Solomon islands. On a plantation along the river near Suu, I found about a dozen species of land shells including 2 species of placostyla also Eulota Trochomorphæ Papuina etc. Several of these are different than those of Auki.

February 1st.- Suu, Malaita. Went hunting and shot 15 birds. New to Malaita list are ptilinopus superbus, Lorius pectoralis, Domicella etc.

February 2nd. I went hunting today, shot 4 birds including a grey bird with dark brown spots on wings. I was aiming at a crested hawk, but the gun would not fire.

On a small beach, I collected many small shells including about a dozen species new to me. The families Mitridae and Turritellidae are well represented. I collected about 25 species belonging to these two families. This small sand beach is half ways between the boat-shop and the sawmill. Down the shore near the mouth of the river, the beach is covered with colored stones, gravel and cobbles. The surf is heavy and there are very few shells. In the other direction from Suu, the shore is old coral bedrock which is covered with sharp points. Besides the

regular shells to be found are several varieties of a species of Haliotis.

On the plantation above the hospital, I collected many land shells. Trochomorpha, which was scarce along the river plantations, is very common there. The reverse is true of several other species. Placostyla is almost absent. I found one fragment of a species of placostyla new to me. Every day it rains heavily.

February 3rd.-Monday.- Suu, Malaita. I went hunting early -- saw a sea turtle -- collected 9 birds. A native brought a live snake which I put into alcohol. The hunters brought in 37 birds, so we skinned until 10:30 P.M. New birds for Malaita collection were 2 more species of grey bird, Edolisoma schisticeps and E. pseudomontanum, ptilinopus rivoli, Ducula lobata, pygmy parrot, black-headed flycatcher etc. That makes 7 more species for Malaita which brings the list up to 27 species.

Yesterday we passed the 39000 mark of birds collected by the Whitney South Sea Expedition, which has been working now for over 10 years and is the longest expedition in the field for birds ever undertaken.

Heavy continued rains.

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February 4th.-Tuesday- Went hunting with

single-barreled shot gun. Had good results-- shot 15 birds-- Native hunters brought in two more birds nee for Malaita.

The green pygmy parrot may be a different subspecies from those of San Cristoval and Choiseul Islands.

George Adam gave me an orange cowrie which he found on Little Malaita or Maramasiki.

February 5th.-Wednesday. I collected 12 birds-- Found a new land shell (placostyla) and collected a large series of Haliotis (2 species). These have been kaikaied by the natives. They eat all kinds of mollusks including small species down to 1/2 inch size. Neritinas are very common and extensively eaten.

The coast inhabited by the Haliotis is very rough. The bed rock to which they cling is eroded to sharp points, and is exposed to the continual pounding of heavy surf. The Haliotis is quite similar in general appearance and size to H. varia and averages 2 inches in length by 3/4 inch in width.

It has been raining heavily nearly all the time since we came here.

February 6th.-Thursday. I hunted birds

all day. Native hunters brought in several good species. Altogether 48 birds today.

Beck seldom used native hunters to get birds, but would send the crew ashore right after breakfast and hunt until late in the afternoon. Then all hands skinned birds until finished. Mr. Hamlin has copied Beck's method almost to the letter and looks upon him as a bird collector as a kind of infallible fetish. Beck was certainly A.1 and produced wonderful results. As an individual bird collector, he is the best ever. As a leader and an expedition organizer, he was not good because he caused incessant friction amongst his crew, especially his white assistants. He had an infernally mean disposition, and was a regular tyrant. Beck is a man much to be admired for his indomitable will and iron constitution. He could tramp the swamps and jungles and over mountains at a pace that would kill an ordinary good walker and he was a splendid shot with a shotgun or rifle. He was also probably the speediest bird skinner.

Regardless of Beck's method as individual bird collector, it is not as good as employing good native hunters that know their own district very well and the habits of the birds. These can generally be employed for very cheap wages.- 3 birds per stick of tobacco for common birds. Tobacco costs 4 or 5 sticks per shilling. For good birds 1 stick is paid and for rare birds 1 shilling or

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birds. Tobacco costs 4 or 5 sticks per shilling. For
good birds 1 stick is paid and for rare birds 3 sticks or

more. If one stays in one place a few weeks, he can teach a bright young native how to skin birds in a few days. He can at least learn to do the rough part of the work. In a short time he will develop speed and become a valuable asset.

February 7th.-Friday. I went hunting early, brought back 16 birds, but only a few good ones. "Whiskey", the native police sergeant and his gang went hunting and brought in plenty of birds including several good ones. Bill Coultas saw a woman nursing a pig. The Marys are very fond of pigs as pets and it is not uncommon to see a mother nursing her child on one breast and a pig on the other. This custom originated from a practical reason. Sometimes a husband kills a wild sow with unweaned young. He brings home the little ones and gives them to his wife or some other Mary to nurse.

I go early every morning to hunt despite the heavy rains and tramp all day thru the jungle and swamps and across the river wearing only a cap, shoes and shorts. When I return in the afternoon, I skin birds often until 10 P.M. I rather enjoy tramping half naked in pouring rains. Bird collecting is very poor at this time on account of the rains.

Mr. Aldington brought 10 pounds worth of silver from Tulagi for the France.

February 8th.-Saturday. Mayr and I went

hunting in opposite directions. The natives brought in a lot of birds today. There are several new subspecies amongst them.

The weather is bad and the ship rolls and pitches. It is disagreeable work in the hold skinning birds until late, with the ship heaving so much.

A better anchorage was found today for the ship.

February 9th.-Sunday. Heavy deluges of rain-- Rivers high. I went hunting all day long and returned with a new grey bird, 4 specimens of a new subspecies of flycatcher and 3 other good birds. Some of the native hunters also got some rare birds. Mayr still has fever. Hamlin went hunting but could not cross the river, so gave it up and returned with only a (Dicaeum aenum) midget.

Forty-eight birds were brought in today. We worked until 11 P.M. George Adams comes every evening to visit us-- Bill signed on a new Malaita boy named Ben. He reminds me of "Stupe" on San Cristoval.

February 11th.-Tuesday. Heavy deluge of rain all day and big sea swells.

Yesterday I found a (porphyrio) land rail's nest and 4 eggs in a bush about 6 feet above the ground. I

tried to shoot the bird but it was too wary and got away before I could shoot. Today Hamlin and I went to the spot again. Hamlin took several photos of the nest and eggs and I took the eggs to the ship. In the meantime, one of the native hunters brought in a porphyrio. The big cockroaches (periplaveta orientalis) are into everything and they chew the paste out of the bindings of our books and magazines. All food must be locked up or very soon it is destroyed. No matter how many cockroaches are killed, there are always at least as many. The little sugar ants are quite an asset. They devour all vermin and when a cockroach is wounded, he is immediately eaten by a swarm of ants. Flies are very numerous and pestiferous at Suu. This is the only place in the islands where I have seen many flies. The reason is evidently because of a large herd of cattle on the Melanesian mission plantation.

I brought in a fine looking stout lizard, about a foot long. It has an iridescent color. Hamlin stuffed it.

February 12th.-Wednesday. Terrible rain storm all night and continuation thruout the day. I hunted birds from 7 A.M. until 3 P.M. and skinned birds until 10 P.M.

Bill's Solomon island sore has finally healed. I have had about 50, but they are all healed.

We now have 300 birds from Malaita, but not many new. There are about 6 new sub-species.

For a week Hamlin and Mayr have been expecting to go into the mountains, but the continual rains have kept back the work.

February 13th.-Thursday. The rains have stopped and sunshine is here again. Dr. Mayr and Hamlin went into the bush with 5 boys including the police sergeant, whiskey and 3 Marys for packers.

We skinned 9 birds left over from yesterday and then I worked on a cabinet for Coultas.

February 14th.-Friday. I built some more shelves and Bill and the skipper are tidying up the rooms and the ship.

The native crew dove over the side and are scraping the bottom of the ship. Whiskey brought a note from Mayr and Hamlin.

February 15th.-Saturday. The Mataram came early this morning into Suu harbor. We packed up the birds of Malaita and Bill shipped them. Mr. Everett of Choiseul bay and a couple of friends came over to visit us in the morning. Also two doctors. I showed them part of the collections. Mr. Everett came over for supper.

Mayr and Hamlin came back from the bush after a tedious march. They returned so soon because the bird fauna is apparently very poor where they were. They got

15 birds, one of which is new to the Malaita list. It is the black and white hawk of the mountains of San Cristoval. Hamlin reached an elevation of 3000 feet. Good birds seem to be quite scarce on Malaita.

Whiskey told us that about a thousand people were killed by the Sinarango punitive expedition, but of course that is an exaggeration; probably less than 100 were killed. Whiskey claims that he killed about 50 people himself. He is a sharp shooter and a blood thirsty Malaita man himself with a fierce looking aspect. His ears are perforated like a sieve and he has rows of tiny needle sharp bones sticking in his nose. He said he shot every man, woman and child that he could find and that corpses were lying about all over the district.

Evidently this wholesale slaughter has cooled the ardor of the mountain bushmen for headhunting and killing white men, but there is extreme hatred against the government and against missionaries. Those bushmen that we have met seem to be quite decent chaps and more trustworthy than the average saltwater man. Several of them informed us that we have nothing to fear from their country men, because we are Americans and do not belong to the government. They have all heard of the France and some of them have worked on her or visited us.

Queensland Charlie, an old bushman, who lives with his two sons far up the Kwariekwa river, which empties near Suu, said "Me savvy man blong this big fella

country Merika. He good fella. Me like um too much. Bushman he savvy him too. Bushman he no like um England, no like um goverment. Queensland he more better."

February 16th.-Sunday. I received a lot of mail and packages today. The carriers came back from the bush. I made a long trip along the beach in search of shells. (The shores around Suu are remarkable for their distribution of shells. Only a tiny beach at the mouth of a muddy stream between the dock and the first village has shells in abundance. I have already found about 20 species there that are new to me. Every time that I visit this beach, I find new shells. So far I have taken about 25 species and sub-species of Mitridae or Pyramidellidae and many species of Conus, Oliva and bivalves. Beyond Suu to the north is a long sandy beach strewn with quartz, flint and agate. Within a mile stretch of the beach at low tide, I did not even find a dead shell.)

On Friday we go into the bush again. We have arranged with the village chief to make the trip to Willie's village. Each carrier will get 5 shillings for the round trip.

We had expected that Malaita would be expensive and that the natives would be cheeky and insolent, but so far they have been quite decent and civil.

Mayr received a letter from Berlin urging him to come back right away so we have pulled up the anchor and are on our way to Tulagi.

February 17th.-Monday.- Tulagi- Arrived at Tulagi at 9:35 A.M. Mayr telegraphed Berlin, but is still undecided whether to go or to stay. Bill received a letter from P.T.Novograblinof of Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka. He discovered two more new hot springs and some new plants in the tundra region of North Kamchatka. Malaise is having trouble with the authorities about the results of his sable fur farm. Flora and Nick Polokof are in Japan and fat baron Kornienko is forester in the Amur province.

February 18th-Tuesday. Mayr received wireless from Berlin. Come at once.- He will leave shortly.-- Bill and I repacked some of the cases of shells at the Chinaman's.

February 19th.-Wednesday. Finished work on cabinet, sent 3 letters to Germany. One of our boys quit, so we are minus a good cook and engineer's helper. Mayr packed his things for Germany. Hamlin purchased a De Lavel oil separator for the engine at $35.00. This will be a great saving. Jack Ellis gave Bill Coultas a good 38 Colt's automatic.

February 21st.-Friday. Jack Ellis is making a stay sail for the France. All of our crew except Aravo,

are on our way to Tuloga.

the cook, struck for more wages and quit. Regular wages in the Br. Solomons for natives is 1 pound per month. These boys are getting 1-1/2 pounds and wanted 3 pounds. Aravo was the only one that received the raise because he is a good servant. The reason for turning Bolshevik was because they received no canned salmon last night. A new boy from Isabel Is.(Ysabel) joined the ship. Hamlin and I installed the oil separator.

February 22nd.-Saturday. Two more boys joined the ship. Hamlin and Coultas are negotiating with the owners of the Royal Endeavor about a mutual exchange of ships.

February 23rd.-Sunday. It is very warm today. I collected a few land shells and several species of Carex in the woods. I am writing a letter to Dr. Murphy suggesting a collecting trip to New Caledonia.

February 24th.-Monday. Ernst Mayr left the ship.

February 25th.-Tuesday.-between Tulagi and Suu.- Our new boatswain, the big coon from Ysabel Is., claims to have worked on ships for 7 years and has been to Sydney. He has no idea about a compass and had the ship nearly turned in the opposite direction of the course before Hamlin noticed that he was steering wrong last night.

February 26th.-Wednesday.-Suu, Malaita. The Chinese carpenter cut our hair this evening. The hunters

brought in 21 birds, one of which is the new grey bird of which we have 2 or 3 specimens already. We were invited to supper by Mr, Mines and Spiers. Hamlin and Coultas and I skinned birds after 8:30 P.M. I had to quit at 10:30 on account of severe stomach cramps, while they finished the work after midnight.

We wish to go to the mountains in a few days but it is difficult at present to get carriers because a big kai kai dance will be held on Friday. Bill and I will go there to see the dance and try to get carriers.

Since three days I have had a lot of trouble with two toes of my right foot. A parasite has eaten all the skin off of the soles and between the toes. Boracic acid powder does not seem to do much good.

February 27th.-Thursday. Bill is packing up for the bush trip. Twenty-six birds today. The big kai kai will come off on Sunday in a small bush village about 2 hours walk from Suu. It is to be given by the widower of a Mary, deceased in December, and will be the funeral feast.-- I found 2 more new shells on the sand beach.

February 28th.-Friday. Worked on ship.-- Wrote 15 pages of notes. Had several visitors to entertain.

March 1st.-Saturday. Bill and I wanted

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to go to the kai kai dance early but were informed that the bush people would not be there until about 4 P.M. We waited in Whiskey's village until 11 A.M. In the meantime I collected some more shells on the small sand beach and found 3 more new ones. We went back to the ship for dinner and left for the bush village at 1 P.M. with Brown, one of the Salt water boys. On the way to the village we were caught in a perfect deluge of rain and were informed later that it did not rain at Suu.

We arrived at the bush village and were greeted by the head man, the old widower. Like most of the old timers on Malaita, his ears hung in shreds caused from hand to hand fighting. Around his neck hung a large circular shell or disk, cut from a pearl oyster. He was proud of his insignia. Some of the Marys and small boys had sores on their legs as usual, so I applied some medicine to them.

Some bright individual, probably the chief, conceived the idea of treating us to cocoanut taro pudding with the assumption of receiving tobacco as a present. Bill gave each one present a half stick, it being fortunate for us that the crowd had not yet arrived. Nevertheless, the trade was not so bad, for I enjoyed the puddings and ate all three of them with great relish. The rest of my white companions would not eat any part of them because they do not relish food prepared by native people, but when

they employ native cooks to prepare white man's food, they forget all about this prejudice.

While waiting for the bush men to arrive, Brown shot two pigeons (Ptilinopus erythrothorax), which was rather scarce on Malaita. One of them, he shot from a high tree. Later, on the trail he shot a bush hen (Megapodes Reinward), the only one taken on Malaita. In its crop were several species of land snails.

About 4 P.M. the bush people arrived. I counted 81, but more came after we left. The funeral feast seems to involve a lot of petty business transactions. All debts incurred from relatives at the time of purchasing the wife are paid off at this time.

First of all, the old man hung 21 fathoms of red shell money worth 4 pounds (20 dollars) per fathom on a cross made of poles. Then came all the members of the clan in procession, each with strings of shell money, flying fox and porpoise teeth and various shell amulets etc. on branches. About a hundred strings of red and white shell money were brought. These are to be divided and re-distributed amongst the various members. We did not stay for the funeral dance for it was getting late, so when we left we had to run along the rough and slippery path and reached there just when darkness fell.

We met Whiskey at the village. He had on his best lava lava and all of his facial adornments,

including a peculiar disk about an inch in diameter with sharp little points. This he wears horizontally in the point of his nose. Around the edges of his nose, he wears a whole fringe of pointed pieces of bone inserted. These are as sharp as a needle and stick out of the flesh about an eighth of an inch. Like most Malaita Salt water men in this district he has his ears perforated with holes about the size of lead pencils. Each ear has about 10 of these holes. They are used to carry pipes or cigarettes and ornaments of wood, shell or bone.

Whiskey informed us that the bushmen would not carry for us less than 5 shillings per day. Of course this is out of all reason and we shall have to employ other methods. They agreed to take us as far as Willie's village but are afraid to go on farther on account of the hostility of their hereditary enemies, the mountain bushmen of Sinarango and Ulimburi. The trails are bad, but we wish to hunt birds in that district as it is high country. The British Commissioner of Malaita does not wish us to go into that district because it is beyond government protection and in case we got killed, it would cause complications with the British government. If we don't hunt there and get the birds, we will be disgraced by the American Museum. So we must try to get up into that country in spite of handicaps and inconveniences.

Whiskey has been ordered by the commissioner to get carriers, so I guess he will get them.

March 2nd.-Sunday. Considerable worry was caused on account of our inability to get carriers except at 5 shillings per day. Later in the evening, the Veronica arrived with Major Saunders, the resident official and Mr. Neverson, the surveyor whom we had been with at Henry Kuper's place. Both of them were quite inebriated and as the evening wore on, they became quite hilarious. Being in a benevolent mood, the major upon hearing about our trouble of lack of carriers, called Mr. Whiskey and ordered him to have 25 carriers for us in the morning at 1 shilling each per day without tobacco and take us when we are ready.

(I spent most of the afternoon carefully searching for sea shells on the same beach where I had found so many good species. I added 12 more new ones to the list besides hundreds of other good shells. These I picked out of the coarse coral drift near the boat shop. Several genera are new to me.

If we would stay one more day at Suu, I would go to a beach about 7 miles south of here where the natives say there is good collecting.)

March 3rd.-Monday.-- Koars-ekwa river.

Bill was sick this morning with stomach cramps. We started at 1 P.M. as per schedule with 21 carriers including 3 Marys. We followed the Koare-ekwa

river in the A-a-erunga district and reached the village of Na-dee-dee-ah at 4:30 where we camped for the night in a hut. As usual the Marys had to carry the heaviest loads. These naked little females are strong creatures and can tote a good sized load all day long over rough country. We had to cross the river innumerable times. The rocks are very slippery and often someone falls. One of the Marys, who was carrying a heavy box of cartridges fell into the swift current in the middle of the river, but she quickly lifted herself without dropping the box. One of the boys, Tom Susumai fell so hard when he slipped, that he struck the bottom 10 inches deep with his face.

(Around the hut where we stopped, I gathered several new land shells, including fine specimens of placostyla, the animals of which had been eaten by the natives.)

March 4th.-Tuesday.- Willie's Village. We left early this morning and reached Willie's village in the afternoon. Here we are stopping to hunt birds. Apparently they are the same as on the coast. It is 1300 feet elevation. It was a steep slippery climb up from the river and the carriers had quite a hard job of it. We had the boys to build a table for skinning birds and another for piling sundry articles. This place where

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we are stopping, is perched on a steep hillside. The floors of these huts are not level, but just rough and steep ground. There are generally about a dozen people sitting around. Some of the men are stark naked and most of the Marys have a small rag around their loins but always sit on their bare posteriors in the dirt. Everybody chews betel nut when not smoking. Even the small girl pickaninny of less than one year chews mashed betel nut and smokes heavy strong stick tobacco. The baby seems to be quite fond of the pipe and when not nursing, it sometimes cries for a smoke. Thruout the night, some of these people wake up to chew some of their beloved betel nut or to smoke. They call betel nuts their beer. I suppose excessive use of it may have ill effects on some people. Especially the lime is somewhat injurious, but I have failed to see any ill effects on any of these people young or old from either tobacco or from betel nut chewing. Evidently nature demands some kind of a stimulant to invigorate health. Civilized people have as a rule too many artificial means of stimulation which are more or less injurious. These primitive bush people do not use alcoholic beverages so in spite of excessive use of betel nut and occasional orgies of smoking, they are a healthy and sturdy race.

March 5th.-Wednesday. Tom Susumai is cook

and Brown is one of the hunters. I caught an 8 inch centipede in our hut after it bit one of the boys on his foot. The bite from one of these vicious beasts is very painful and quite dangerous.

Bill Coultas went up a high mountain with several boys to look for birds. He came back at 6 P.M. and reported nothing new in birds. He reached elevation of 3000 feet. He went thru 3 small villages. I went about a mile up the mountain and passed by the hut of Willie's brother. He came to help me hunt birds. I got 7 good birds but no new ones. Bill and I worked until 11 P.M. skinning birds. There were 22 today but nothing new.

Hamlin started with two mountain bush boys as guides to the distant village of Aurola which is not far from Sineorango. The people of that district also participated in the big fight. The journey is about 2 days over rough country. Hamlin will see if that district has plenty of birds or not.

March 6th.-Thursday. We had 10 birds to skin this morning. The boys brought in about 20 more but nothing new. More people come every day to see us. They are from the back mountain country. We pay 2 sticks of tobacco for the rent of Willie's hut per day. Everybody helps themselves to the rice and

we shoot plenty of kai kai pigeons. Heavy rains.

March 7th.-Friday. It rained all day but Bill and I had plenty of birds to skin from yesterday. I skinned a hornbill and a porphyrio. George, one of our new Malaita boys, skinned 3 birds. He does very well as a beginner. Tom Susumai is a good cook and makes very tasty pancakes. He has shown George how to make them.

The small boys bring in lots of insects and a number of new land shells. Sand flies are very bad, so I have to wear socks. My legs are quite badly bitten already. We are not pestered with house flies and mosquitoes as on the coast.

So far we have 480 birds from Malaita but there are very few new birds amongst them. Unless there are good birds in the mountains of Aurola and Sineorango districts, we will prove that Malaita is a washout as far as birds are concerned. Much had been expected of the avifauna of Malaita by the American Museum because the island has never been explored before for birds, but we find that it is not rich in birds like San Cristoval or Guadalcanar islands. The avifauna of Malaita compares with that of Isabel island which has also similar conditions.

March 8th.-Saturday. I went hunting early; took 3 small boys along. They were of good

service in collecting many kinds of insects, land shells and 3 kinds of frogs. Small boys and girls are invaluable as collectors as they take keen interest in this work and seem to know the habitats of animals quite well. One of the boys climbed up in a betel nut palm where he found the nest of a rhinoceros beetle, male and female.

I shot a green parrot (Geoffroyus) in a high tree. It stayed up there about 70 feet from the ground. I could not see where it was, but one of the small boys climbed up the lianas and got the bird on a huge branch. These small bush children can climb like monkeys.

This region has an avifauna which is little different from that of the coast and has practically nothing that is new. It is a waste of time to stay here so we are skinning birds until Hamlin arrives from Aurola.

We are 700 feet above the river and it is a very steep and slippery climb, but the Marys have to carry all the water in bamboos up the hill every morning. There is a good excuse for mountain bush people to be rather dirty, when water is generally far away. White people have only to live the same and they soon get just as dirty unless they move down to the water or catch rain. Most of the natives are suffering from yaws and this disease leaves great scars. All white people that travel long in the bush with their legs exposed get island sores no matter how healthy they are. They are very difficult to

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March 9th.-Sunday. I collected a few insects and shells this morning and went hunting in the afternoon. I shot a Domicella (parrot) and an Edilosoma schisticeps (grey bird). Yesterday we permitted the boys to shoot half a dozen cockatoos. Today they are decorated with jaunty tufts and boquets of feathers.

It is hard to find native weapons on this side of Malaita since the Sinorango massacre. We are trying to buy a few spears etc. Tom Susumai told us that when the district was raided, he was detailed to burn large numbers of spears, arrows, clubs and other weapons.

Hamlin arrived in the afternoon with 20 carriers from Aurola. He brought 2 (Turcoenas crassirostris) cuckoo wanzos or crested pigeons, a flying fox and a new color phase of opossum. Willie brought 4 birds also. Hamlin said that Aurola should be good for birds. There is a mountain about 4000 feet high that we will explore. If we have little success there, it will mean that Malaita is devoid of desirable mountain birds.

The punitive expedition into Sinorango district caused much misery amongst the natives and many innocent people were killed by over zealous police boys and vengeful Salt water men. It is a question of whether the government did right in permitting such ruthless methods in a land where the population is naturally diminishing.

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Captain Turner who is Chief of Police at Tulagi, was the commander of the expedition, but being a great coward, he was afraid to go ashore and participate in the fight.

When Hamlin suddenly appeared near Aurola he was immediately surrounded by a band of natives armed with Snyders, spears and axes. They were quite surprised to see a white man come from that side of the island which only one or two others had ever attempted before. After explaining his mission they lost their apprehension and became quite friendly. The chief, Charlie Babaonai and the devil devil man, Hankapaw John are quite decent fellows and have much influence over their people. They said we were welcome to come into their territory to hunt birds.

March 10th.-Monday. Hamlin is resting today-- writing notes. Bill and two carriers went back to the ship early this morning. He took the bird skins and other specimens along. He will come to Aurola with more supplies. There are 4 hunters out this morning. It rained all day. Hunters brought in 4 kai kai pigeons and 6 other birds. I collected a lot of new insects and wrote letters. Quite a lot of petrified wood lies scattered about. The natives roast the pigeons in bamboos.

March 11th.-Tuesday.- Koree-ekwa river. We traveled all day up the river with 13 carriers. Toward evening we ascended a steep trail to about 2000 feet elevation where we camped with 2 tents on a small ridge. Stopped

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March 11th.-Tuesday.- Koree-ekwa river. We traveled all day up the river with 18 carriers. Toward evening we ascended a steep trail to about 2000 feet elevation where we camped with 2 tents on a small ridge. Stoppe

at a small village on the river and bought sweet potatoes. (Later in the afternoon we stopped at another village near the river. There I collected a lot of fine Placostyla shells, the animals of which had been eaten by the natives. River snails as Neritina and Melania are everywhere extensively eaten.)

March 12th.-Wednesday.-Mt. Kolevrat or Torumbusa. We got an early start and reached an elevation of 4000 feet on Mt. Kolevrat by afternoon, where we pitched our tents on rough ground in the virgin forest. It is only 5 minutes walk to the summit which is 4300 feet. It is cold and wet up here and rainy and foggy. A tall straight pandamus palm grows up here. The pith of the tip of the tree is good to eat and has a fine flavor when eaten raw.

With us we have the devil devil man, Hankapaw John. He is a queer looking specimen of a man. His face and limbs are terribly disfigured and his fingers stick out in all directions, like a bunch of hooks. Nevertheless, he is quite a congenial soul, always witty and full of humor. He is clever in woodcraft and his devil devil seems to be quite potent. Yesterday when we were stopping at the last village on the river we waited for a heavy downpour to burst any moment. Black and threatening clouds hung over us and we did not wish to risk getting all of our packs wet. John told us that he could prevent the rain from coming if Mr. Hamlin gave him a shilling.

He said that his rain devil devil was a strong one. When Hamlin gave him a shilling he told us to start off with the packers. Then he muttered some kind of a prayer all the while. All afternoon he muttered the words and would burst into a shout every little while. It did seem strange that the rain did not come. He did the same thing today when the rain threatened and it did not come. He must know something about weather conditions. John felt very proud when we repeatedly flattered and praised him before his countrymen as a powerful devil devil man that savvys too much along altogether something blong rain he no come.

It is cold at nights at this elevation and with plenty of rain and fog there is quite a lot of discomfort.

March 13th.-Thursday. The natives come from long distances to see us and to try to get a chance to hunt for us. A lot of birds were brought in today. Bill Coultas arrived with his carriers. He had to leave a trunk and some supplies behind about a day's journey from here. One of the boys shot a large black wild tom cat. It was a descendant of the domestic variety. The fur was in good pelage, but badly shot, so Mr. Hamlin only saved the skull for the museum.

March 14th.-Friday.- Mt.Kolevrat- 4200 feet. I hunted birds all day. There are many coast

species up here including Ducula rubricera, Monarcha menadensis, M. arses, M. castaniventris, Geoffroyus, Myzomela rubra, Dicaeum aenum, Edilosoma sp., Pachycephala, Grauculus papuensis, Cacomantis etc. The brown tan pigeon, Macropegia is very common and is also about the most difficult bird to skin on account of its very tender skin and strong wing tendons, There are no starlings or mina birds.

Amongst the new birds for the list of Malaita that we have already taken or seen are Ducula negriceps, Charmocyna, Charmocinopsis, Phyloscopus, Columba vitiensis, Rhipidura rufocastanea (nov. nud.) etc.

March 15th-Saturday. Eighteen boys stopped at our camp last night. We let them use all of our extra blankets, clothes and packs etc. It was cold for us but it must have been colder for the boys because some of them came up here naked.

March 16th.-Sunday. This camp is quite miserable as there is no place to skin birds except on our bed of poles and no room to turn around in. We sit here from early morning until night skinning birds.

This morning two small boys came with sugar and other supplies from Willie's village. One

of the men brought in a live boa constrictor which I put into spirit. It was about 3-1/2 feet long. This species is sluggish and harmless.

Mr. Hamlin left for Suu this morning with 2 boys. He will take the France around to the other side of Malaita near Ulimburi but will try to collect on Ulava and Gower islands on the way. This will take about a month.

Half a dozen bush Marys came with yams and bananas today which we purchased with tobacco. Several of these young ladies are real beauties. They are all stark naked. Marys are scarce on Malaita so they are strictly watched and are taboo.

Two of the boys explained some of their customs to us this evening. They said it is death punishment to seduce a married woman. Many of the men never have a wife or intercourse with a woman because Marys are scarce and very expensive to purchase. They have a contempt for a loose woman. The price of a wife is almost unbelievable for a people as poor as these natives who only earn an occasional shilling. A Mary sosts about $500.00. Whiskey paid $1000.00 for his wife. First a boy works for a white master for many years and saves his money at wages of 1 pound per month. When he marries all of his savings and all he can borrow from the clan and most of his father's savings go for a big wedding feast. The debt owed to relatives and members of the

clan for the cost of one naked woman often hangs over until she dies. Then she is buried and a few days or a month afterward at the funeral feast, amends are made to pay up or to cancel the debts. Marys are always buried but males are honorably burned on a funeral pyre and the heads of men are placed with those of his ancestors in the skull house.

Most of the boys that come to our camp on the mountain top participated in the massacre of Bell and Lilly and the 14 police boys or were present at the time. Many of them served a year in prison at Tulagi. About 15 or 20 of them stay here every night and help us eat our food. We feed them on sweet potatoes, bananas and birds. We have 5 shot guns and we let the natives use them to hunt birds for us. We pay them 1 stick of tobacco for 3 birds or 12 birds per shilling.

We were told by Mr. Wilson the D.O. at Auki, to keep out of the district because the people are fierce and treacherous. This is uncontrolled area and we are here at our own risk and must depend entirely on their whims and gaining their friendship.

The punitive expedition destroyed their plantation, ravished their women, killed about 200 people, hanged 8 men in Tulagi and jailed about 200.

These people are heathens and have not yet been contaminated by the efforts of missionaries to Christianize them. They do not wish to have their customs interfered with by missionaries and they are right.

Boys always marry outside of their home villages and amongst the bush people it is a death taboo for a single couple to be caught cohabiting if both are from the same village. Blood relatives are always taboo on Malaita and that is the rule thruout Melanesia. Like in most of the Solomon islands,the children belong to the mother while the father generally acts as nurse maid, but often has not as much authority over his own children as his wife's oldest brother.

March 17th-Monday. It is cold and miserable up here as it rains and storms most of the time. Bill and I sit on our bed of rough poles and skin birds from morning until night, only stopping for a bite to eat at meal times. Food consists of tea or cocoa, sweet potatoes, pancakes and birds. Water is carried from a spring in bamboos from quite a long distance. Some of the rain water from the tents is also caught on large leaves and run into a kerosene tin. The natives are not used to the cold, but come here in dozens and sleep on the ground and shiver all night. We never bother them and let them eat our potatoes and bird bodies. They think this is a picnic and suffer exposure on the cold mountain top because of the novelty of hunting and living with 2 white men in the bush. These boys like to work for us at small tasks, such as gathering wood, cooking etc. We let them use all of our spare blankets and clothes at night and even let some of them occupy our

bed with us so they won't freeze.

One of these natives is a tough egg. He always wears a very serious expression on his ugly mug and is easily aroused to anger. The rest of the people are rather afraid of him. He does not belong to this clan but is one of the professional killers belonging to the tribe. He is the only one that is wishing to cause trouble and is always trying to hatch out some scheme whereby he can benefit from us. I let him use my shirt every night to keep him quiet. Last night he insisted on sleeping in our bed beside me to keep warm.

When government officers travel in the bush on Malaita nowadays, they have an armed guard of 25 police with modern rifles and plenty of ammunition.

These people smoke almost incessantly and most of their money goes for tobacco. Both sexes and all ages smoke tobacco or chew betel nut° This does not seem to affect their stamina or vitality. To take away these two habits would deprive them of most of the joy of living and where missionaries have persuaded wild natives to suddenly give up these habits they have quickly deteriorated as a rule.

March 18th.-Tuesday. Kolevrat Mt. 4000 ft.

Rained all day. The hunters got some good birds. Skinned birds as usual. One of the double-barreled guns is out of commission. Bill checked over the birds

taken. The custom of these natives required that a stranger must pay for everything they do. Oka-mowri and the killer slept with us last night.

March 19th.-Wednesday. Rain and cold all day and night. Sumburagenee made a leaf hut at Wangafufa for us and placed wood and building material. Tomorrow we will move there if the weather permits. For about an hour I got out to look at the flora. Here are many species of fern and mosses that are typical of the wet mountain tops. Many trees are coming into blossom at this time. How well I would like to carry on tropical mountain botanical work. Every night many species of insects are taken.

Some of the natives do little else than to sit around day and night and shiver. Hankapaw John, the devil-devil man keeps everyone in good humor. He is quite a character. Some white men insist that the mountain bushmen are always serious and sullen and have no sense of humor and never smile. Old John cracks crude and simple jokes and these fellows are frequently convulsed with laughter. Even in the middle of the night when it is too cold and wet for some of the boys to sleep, old John will spring the one about the puss- cat which has been repeated about a thousand times more or less and there is always a roar of laughter. Simple jokes never become stale with these people. They must be very plain and crude. We have won much favor by telling a few very simple jokes or bantering

and playing tricks on some of the small boys or old men.

March 20th.-Thursday.- Wangafufu- 3000 ft. This morning we moved everything to Wangafufu 1000 feet below. This is the site of an abandoned village belonging to one of the boys. Back of it the ground is taboo, because the dead are buried there. I hurt one of my feet enroute. The old shoes are too full of nails. Plenty of rain and wind here. Charlie Babamai and his followers set up our tents and braced them well. The flora in the vicinity is rich and varied and I am surprised how many kinds of plants are here that are unfamiliar to me. There are many bushes with a kind of red raspberry. They are good flavored.

March 21st. Friday. The wind blew hard all night and it is always cold. It reminds me of Autumn in Alaska or Kamchatka and still we are within 10 degrees of the Equator and the elevation is not high. This is the time of the Equinoxial storms. Bill and I skinned birds all day. I catch many kinds of insects at night.

March 22nd.-Saturday. Rain and strong wind all night and day. We skinned birds until 12 P.M. as usual. Everybody is suffering from the cold. No new birds. Food is scarce again. Some of the boys go back

to their villages at night.

This is the kind of life that I love, but I wish I had my own expedition and working on contract. I would like to be working in New Caledonia.

March 23rd.-Sunday. Rainy and stormy. Skinned 10 birds this morning. Bill paid off most of the men. There are still 8 boys with us. No hunting today.- Wrote diary-- labeled birds.

March 24th.-Monday. Very stormy all night and all day. The hunters did not want to go out, but they got 9 birds around camp. No new birds so far at Wangafufu but maybe we will get some when the sunshine comes again. We have one Bolshevik in camp who spends most of his time in concocting schemes to best us. So far we have beat him at all of his tricks and we do not fall for any of his demands.

Mr. Hamlin made the mistake of giving these fellows 4 sticks of tobacco instead of three for a shilling. This has caused a lot of trouble because we do not want to give them 4 for a shilling and then buy it at 3 sticks for a shilling. As soon as a native gets enough for a few days ahead, he is not interested in hunting or work. We spent the day in labeling and drying birds. It is difficult to do good work in preparing bird skins in the mountains with-

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out special boxes with partitions to prevent bird skins from being mauled.

March 25th.-Tuesday. Very stormy and rainy today. The boys got only a few good birds.-- 4 Ducula rubricera-- red knobbed pigeon--- 2 cockatoos, 2 thick heads, 1 dollar bird-- 1 yellow bibbed dove-- 3 Monarcha arses.-- 1 green parrot (Geoffroyus)-- 2 Mina birds-- and 2 Charmocinopsioz= 18 birds. Four Marys were here with sweet potatoes. Nine boys quit us today thinking we would regret their loss, but it saves us lots of trouble and expense including food, clothing etc. The agitator who engineered the strike stayed but finally agreed to carry a letter to the France which we now expected any day. Now we have 3 or 4 reliable boys left. That is all we need except when we move. This weather is bad and has caused the deaths of 3 children and one Mary since we came. That is because the Marys and the children are stark naked and are cold at nights. A boy brought a new frog.-- A great handicap to us is that we cannot dry the bird skins without sunshine.

March 26th.-Wednesday. At last the storm has broken after 2 weeks. Today we have sunshine and things look different. We put the bird skins in the sun as well as all damp articles about camp. I hunted and shot 4 birds.

Over twenty more were brought in, but nothing new. Last night I caught 35 species of moths. Bill took a few pictures about camp. The boys we have with us now are better than the crowd that left. They are all relatives of Jack the fellow who owns the site of this village. He receives 1 stick tobacco per day as rent.

There are no large bush villages on Malaita. Most of them are only two or three huts, generally so situated as to afford a commanding view of the surrounding country. Men seldom go about alone. There are generally two or three or more and most of them carry axes, spears or old Snyders.

Amongst the bushmen it is customary for a boy from a distant village to steal a Mary for a wife. The father and brothers try to kill him if they can, and formerly used to carry on the fight to the husband's village. After a time the wrath of the father cools when the boy has appeased him with sufficient payment; then comes the big wedding kai kai feast payed by the husband and all of his relatives. The two clans come together and eat and dance. The expense is sometimes so great that it keeps the newly weds broke the rest of their lives trying to pay off the debt.

The naked wife makes her garden after the husband has cleared the land for her. The garden belongs to her and her children but she must do most of the work

and it is her duty to provide food for the family. She also raises pigs and she is very fond of them as pets. They are kept clean and are well taken care of. Pigs are expensive on Malaita and will bring as high as $50.00 gold for big huskers. They are generally sold to a village that is giving a big feast.

Most of the heavy work, such as carrying burdens and water, is done by the young Marys. They are small slim women, but like all primitive people, they are strong and hardy. The men cut wood and clear land, build houses, hunt birds and wild pigs, do much of the cooking and help to tend to the babies. They are also required by the fathers when still single to work several years for a white master to provide money for the wedding. The men are naturally more intelligent than the women because most of them have traveled to other tribes and islands and have become acquainted with white people. Like most savages, they are a happy and quite contented people wherever the missionaries have not upset their balance of living. Married women wear a braided bark belt around the belly. It is stained red and is about 2 inches wide.

Last night several Marys stopped here with their relatives after selling us potatoes, Altho it was cold and they stark naked, I noticed that the boys did not share any of our extra blankets or clothes with them. It is largely on account of too much exposure at nights wih

infants during long spells of bad weather that causes colds and fevers amongst the small children. The bushmen have no medicine, so mortality is high amongst women and babies.

Yesterday, Charlie Babamai's pickaninny was very sick. He is still at home. To appease the bad spirits he bought a small suckling pig for 5 shillings and buried it.

March 27th-Thursday. Skinned birds all day-- no new birds-- One of the boys shot a large male opossum. I skinned and the boys kaikaied him at midnight. A fellow brought a fine sumbi or double-edged war club. He wanted 1-1/2 pounds for it. These natives charge high prices for good weapons and have standard prices amongst themselves. It is difficult to beat down the price with money. One may sometimes get a good bargain by exchanging an inexpensive article such as a flash-light for a good weapon.

There was little sunshine today.

March 28th.-Friday. Skinned birds all day- plenty of rain-- Bill Coultas makes beautiful bird skins. I am improving.

March 29th.-Saturday. Charlie Babamai came today with carriers. His child is better now. We skinned and labelled birds until after midnight. Our supplies are

running short. No rain today.-- No new birds yet.-- Plenty of new insects taken. Another boy brought a smaller club. He wants a pound for it.

Tomorrow we go to Aurola.

March 30th.-Sunday. On road to Aurola.

Moved camp this morning.-- 17 carriers-- no rain. Plenty of sunshine. Had a bath in a river, the first good one since we came up in the mountains. I found a new species of Placostyla on top of a mountain that we crossed. Bill took photos of the scenery. The aspect of the surrounding country landscape is beautiful and grand. We reached Aurola district late in the afternoon. Charlie Babamai has given us the free use of his house. He is related to the whole clan and is the headman. Charlie is a very intelligent man and is honest and trustworthy. Without him, we could not work with success.

Plenty of people come to look us over. We skinned birds until midnight but were not half finished. I caught many insects.- No new birds. We are 10 hours journey from the other coast. This is the widest part of the island where we have come. No tidings of the France yet.

March 31st.-Monday. Aurola, Malaita, 3000 ft.

Started very early this morning to skin birds and worked until midnight. Plenty of people came today in-

cluding many Marys. All of the women, the old men and some of the middle aged and all children are starked naked. At night we have about 20 people stopping with us. The smoke of 3 open smudgy fires inside is hard on the eyes and it is difficult to see to skin birds late at night.

Before going to bed Bill and I viewed the Southern Cross and the Great Dipper as bright as ever they shine. The bush natives are not as dull and solemn as we have been informed they are. All day long there is plenty of mirth and laughter over old time worn jokes. Passing wind with vim and fervor, especially if there is a resounding report always sends the crowd into spasms of mirth. Then someone will say "Big black fella puss cat he sing out again".

We have spent 4 weeks in the bush.

The mountains of Malaita are quite sparsely populated. There are probably about 30,000 people on the island. In former times there were many more. There are not many cannibals now. This custom is dying out and only some of the old warriors and professional killers still practise it occasionally according to native information.

These bush people altho living in a primitive condition are quite particular about what they eat. They will not touch tainted meat unless very hungry. Taro-cocoanut puddings become a little rancid after a couple of days. In a week or ten days they have somewhat of a strong cheesy taste. The natives will only eat them fresh and

thought it a great joke to see me eat one with relish that was over a week old. Their dogs are well fed. They will not eat fresh meat and prefer everything cooked.

We expect to hear that the France has reached the Eastern side of the island, but as always she is overdue. We sent a man to the coast with a letter a week ago. We are running very short of supplies again. Ammunition, arsenic, drying powder, food, kerosene, tobacco, gasolene etc. is about finished.

April 1st.-Tuesday. We keenly feel the lack of good containers for birds and other specimens. This is good experience for future collecting. Bill is an excellent preparator and a crank on doing careful work. I skinned birds as usual. Chas. Sumburagene brought in a hornbill and several other birds. Chas. Babamai shot a Cacomantis (cuckoo) and a new sub-species of Ceyx lepidus, the little bush kingfisher. This is one of the best birds taken so far on Malaita. Every night we catch more species of moths and other insects as they fly around the gas light. There was plenty of sunshine today and our birds are mostly quite well dried and ready for the journey to the coast.

Living in the tropical mountain bush country is healthy. We sit from early morning until midnight nearly every day or tramp all day thru wet woods and do not get very tired.

April 2nd.-Wednesday. Very good scenery lies about us on all sides in the distance, and not far away on the next peak was the scene of the Sinarango fight.

Three carriers came from Ulimburi where the France came yesterday. Now we have plenty of cartridges, arsenic, cotton, drying powder, paper and sugar but no gasoline to wash birds with.

Hamlin sent a letter.-- France went on a coral reef during thr big storm. Water filled hold-- 15,000 cartridges wet-- Many things wet and ruined. Engine room flooded. Sixty natives worked during low tide, breaking coral rock to get ship afloat. Captain Burrell has been down with malaria most of the time during the last 3 weeks.-- Hamlin was on Ulava and Little Malaita only one day each. Birds are scarce and no rare species. The ship has proceeded to Gover Is.

April 3rd.-Thursday. We skinned birds as usual-- Bill made labels. We argued about the war all day. Boys brought in 25 birds-- 1 hornbill, 1 flying fox and the 4 new species and subspecies recently discovered. Plenty of new boys and Marys come here all the time. They seem to be very happy people.

April 4th.-Friday. Life among the bushmen is simple but appealing. This is much preferable than work-

ing in the big cities. These people seem always happy. In the evening their queer harmonious chants are sung for hours and are pleasing to the ear. The mountain people have melodious voices and they know how to sing in harmony with blending notes when some of them blow on pipes of pan and other reed instruments and keep time. It is really beautiful when one becomes accustomed to it. Words to songs are generally invented by the singer as the music progresses. Bassiano, the great killer, is now in the spirit world and has become the mighty hero. His deeds of daring are extoled in song, and long are the praises to the soul of Bassiano as the warriors and younger boys sit around the camp fire and recount his bloody deeds. Sumburagene and Okamourri are the leaders of the orchestra and do most of the singing while the rest of the crowd hum the most peculiar notes of various pitches in accompaniment. Their normal bedtime is about 9 o'clock, so I suppose it is partly to keep awake that they start to sing about 9 P.M. until we finish skinning birds, which is often past midnight.

Last night we experienced an earthquake which lasted about 3 minutes. It was a quick succession of shakes. We skinned birds from 6 A.M. until 10 P.M., but did not even finish yesterday's birds. We keenly feel the loss of the 4 expert Polynesian bird skinners. It was necessary to give them the sack at the time be-

cause the expedition was completely out of funds and had reached the limit of borrowing. It is very regretable that we have been held up so much thru lack of funds when they were most urgently needed.

So far on Malaita, I have collected about a dozen species of frogs. Very few land shells occur up here. Heavy rain this afternoon.

April 5th.-Saturday. The boys brought a dozen birds today including several good species, but no new ones.

April 6th.-Sunday. The boys did not hunt today, but Bill and I did not finish yesterday's birds at 10 P.M. Chas. Babamai brought in the catch of the season this morning. Two specimens of a new subspecies of owl, male and female. They had about a dozen endemic lice on them. Bill Coultas wishes to make a special study of bird lice when he works for his Master's degree, so we are collecting all we can find. A boy brought a flying fox.

In the morning I go to Ulimburi to meet the France and get more supplies..

April 7th.-Monday.-between Aurola and the coast. I left early with 4 packers and Chas. Babamai. We stopped over night at a peculiar stoney village in

Ulimburi district. I slept on a big boulder inside of a house. We had a supper of green cocoanuts. It was necessary to eat them outside of the village as they are taboo and the people at the time dare not eat them.

April 8th.-Tuesday- Ulimburi district.-

We reached the village of Kwarambara on the coast after two hours rapid descent. This village is on the shore of a long, narrow and shallow inlet. There are many fish traps there and people are always fishing. I hunted in the afternoon. Got 4 birds, including a bush heron, also a small bat. I had only a piece of glass to skin birds with. Collected about a dozen species of land shells.

April 9th.-Wednesday--Kwarambara, Malaita.

Waited all day for the ship with 12 carriers. Very little food. Decided to go back to Aurola next morning and leave word for the France to bring supplies, but the ship arrived at sundown. I went aboard in a large canoe. Hamlin and I worked until midnight putting away the bird skins etc.

April 10th.-Thursday. Hamlin related the happenings on board the France during our stay in the bush. In the Maramasiki passage between Ulava and big Malaita, the

France ran onto a living coral reef. This was due to negligence on the part of Captain Burrell who did not keep a sharp lookout in the dangerous passage. She struck the coral about two feet deep. It was feared that a hole had been stove into her, but the France is strongly built and the damage was found to be slight. Only a couple of copper plates were scraped off. She partially filled with water, which damaged a lot of things and flooded the engine room. Some of the cotton and all of the corn meal as well as several thousand large cartridges and 15,000 auxiliary cartridges got wet. All of these were afterwards well dried in the sun and most of them can be used. All of the firewood and a row of building paper for plant driers were capsized.

Over 60 natives came out to the ship in their canoes. They offered to pull her off for a case of tobacco. Hamlin thought it could not be done but let them have a try. A heavy rope was first tied but it broke at the first pull. After breaking coral rock and clearing away debris at low tide a new method was employed. When the tide had risen, about 30 boys dove over the side and lifted with their backs while the rest pulled on a hawser. In a few minutes she slid off the reef into deeper water.

Hamlin had no success with the birds on Ulava but got a good lot of land shells for me. On Gower Is. results were very good and there he obtained 8 specimens of an apparently new species of rail (Gymnocrex) ?. This

may be the same that Beck got on another island. He also got a new subspecies of a fruit dove some what like the one we called Ptilinopus roseopunctata, that we found on Santa Anna. About a dozen species were taken of these. A new species ? of flycatcher was also taken. A fine collection of land shells were gathered by the natives and will add to the list of N. species of shells.

We packed up necessities to take into the bush and left the ship about 2:30 P.M. We camped at Sandy's village and slept in his house. He is the head-man of Ulimburi district and owns all the land from the salt water back 3 hours walk into the hills. He spent 17 years as indentured laborer in Queensland. Sandy has good huts well stocked with firewood and has good gardens of taro, yams, sweet potatoes etc. His family of wife and 5 children are better looking than the average natives.

April 11th.-Friday.- Aurola, Malaita, 3,000 ft. Hamlin took individual photos of each of Sandy's children. We left with 11 carriers early and arrived at our camp in Aurola about 4:30. Bill Coultas was out of most supplies, so our arrival was timely.

April 12th.-Saturday. Bill rechecked the birds and has found that many of the series of 40 each are complete, but there is a dearth in new or rare birds. We have skinned over 1,000 birds on Malaita and have now passed

the 40,000 mark for the 10 years work in the field for the Whitney South Sea Expedition. Kalaita Is. has not proven a rich field for avifauna but we feel that we have gotten all but a very few of the birds that occur on the island. The only rare bird that we did not get, is a ground thrush. Chas. Babamai could have shot it several times, but it is taboo to him. The large eagle hawk is also a strictly taboo bird, so we did not try to shoot it. We did not bother about sea birds or some of the widely distributed birds such as Halcyon Sancta, the small migratory kingfisher. The large white and blue kingfisher, swallows and small swifts were also considered too common to take. The large white headed hawk, Halaeaster Indus was passed by and the Nicobar pigeon which is common on some adjacent islands was only seen once.

One of the boys brought a large live barn owl which he took from its hole. It is so rarely seen that most of the people had never heard of one before.

April 13th.-Sunday. A badly shot owl (Spiloglaux roseoaxillaris)- new subspecies-- was brought this morning. It was put into alcohol. One of the boys shot 3 flying foxes with arrows and another boy brought a light brown opossum.

April 14th.-Monday. Another possum today.-- A melanistic phase. Now we have 4 specimens from

Malaita. A boy brought a good hawk, 2 flying foxes and a few birds. The work is finished.

April 15th.-Tuesday. One more day of good birds.-- 2 species of cuckoos and a hawk (Accipeter albugularis). Charlie Babamai brought 2 flying foxes and an opossum.-- Bill took photos of native houses and I collected land shells in the native gardens. Hamlin got very sick during the night from gastric fever.

Tonight the bush people are all happy and the mountain reed orchestra of various sized pipes of pan accompanied to the humming of bush songs gives pleasant sensations of harmony to the ears.

Altho very shrewd and hard to deal with in business transactions, they need to take few lessons from missionaries in the 10 commandments.

Bill paid off the boys for the birds they have shot and for the work they have performed. Charlie Babamai holds the record for good shooting. In a very rough mountainous country with rain and fog, he got 90 out of 125 shots. He also got most of the best birds.

April 16th.-Wednesday.- Aurola to Sandy's village. After much haggling over wages for carrying, Charlie Babamai, the headman of Aurola finally persuaded the boys to carry our packs to the sea for 1 shilling per

day, altho they wanted 3 shilling per day. There were 17 carriers. We walked until near sundown when we reached Sandy's place. He was pleased to let us stay with him. Hamlin was sick during the long march, but gamely kept up with the rest of us. The boys shot several kai kai pigeons and several other birds. The 4 young naked Marys did most of the heavy carrying. Two of them have wonderfully formed bodies. These healthy young female savages seem to be perfectly happy and contented, especially when they have plenty of strong tobacco.

April 17th.-Thursday.-- Sandy's village to the France. A good night's rest in Sandy's house. Hamlin is better this morning. The salt water rascals at Kwarambara charged us 2 shillings to take a boy out to the boat to tell the skipper to send a boat. The skipper was down with fever. We allowed all of the mountain bushmen to come aboard to look-see.

April 18th- Friday.- Schooner France. Chas. Babami and Chas. Sumburagene, the head men of Aurola are on board, bound for Tulagi where they will visit a few days. I am getting a full day of needed rest. Hamlin and Bill are preparing the 2 stinking skins of the opossom and the 3 flying foxes. The skipper roars like a lion at the crew most of the time. We are bound for Tulagi.

April 19th.-Saturday. The skipper is down with fever again. We anchored in a bay of a small island near Florida Is. (Galer). I went ashore with the two Charlies. One of them shot a Nicobar pigeon. I wanted to buy some fruit at the native plantation but there are only cocoanuts. It became dark shortly.

This is a very good shell beach.

April 20th.-Sunday.- Tulagi. Early in the morning I went back to the beach with the boats' crew. The boys shot 7 gray pigeons (Ducula pacifica) and a bush hen (Megapodes keinwardt). They also got a lot of cocoanuts. I collected over 200 species of shells in less than 2 hours. Amongst them are 5 or 6 new to me. This is one of the best beaches I have ever seen.

We arrived in Tulagi about 12:30--P.O. closed but Bob Sterling's pub is open. This evening Captain Peterson, bridegroom, celebrated his wedding party at the pub. Naturally it was hilarious.

April 21st.-Monday. Bank holiday. Everything closed on account of Easter. Captain Peterson, mate of the Malanta was married today. Early this morning a stiff breeze blew us aground near the breakwater, so we heaved up anchor and sailed down to Chang Chong's boat

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shop and dropped the anchor. The skipper was ashore and wanted to know why we did not wait for him. That would have been silly because he did not wake up until after 9 A.M.

Bill labeled the birds today.

April 22nd.-Tuesday. I got a lot of mail today. Henry Kuper sent my red fountain pen which I left at Santa Anna. No letters or funds from the museum. Mr. Aldington took the two Charlies back to Malaita with him as a favor to us. Bill left him a bottle of whiskey.

April 23rd.-Wednesday. A lot of supplies arrived from B.Ps. Bill and Hamlin are checking over the bird labels. They are in good order now. Bill tried to develop the films taken in the bush but made the mistake of keeping them too long before developing. I am afraid they are all spoiled.

I walked around Tulagi island today and got a lot of good shells including several new land shells.

April 24th.-Thursday. No mosquitoes and not many flies here near Chang's.-- Bill worked on his films but they are almost ruined.

April 25th.-Friday. I spent the entire day in writing.

April 26th.-Saturday. We are anxious to leave Tulagi for Samarai but innumerable bills and lack of funds hold us back. Bill and Hamlin are getting some of the business finished. The skipper is our greatest expense and he is quite useless as he takes no interest whatever in the expedition and does little else than to navigate the ship once in a great while. He is an old man and has been used to being babied and pampered, He is very crabbed and cranky and curses and yells at the crew on the slightest provocation.

I wrote a letter to Dr. Mayr.

April 27th.-Sunday. I went across Tulagi bay this morning with some of our boys to hunt on Gela island. The boys took the boat up the river and went swimming all day. The village where I stopped has a native missionary and these civilized natives are a surly outfit. I learned soon why people in Tulagi call them Gela swine. I walked along on a small path that follows the right bank of the river and hunted for Centropus, the large cuckoo that inhabits Guadalcanar and has been heard on Gela. It was such an unpromising locality and rough

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going for my sore legs that I went back to the village and asked to rent a canoe to take me back to the ship. No one was interested. I spent some time gathering shells from the beach and then went into the woods after land shells. (I found about 6 species and varieties of papuina and several other species. Later I compared them with the same species taken on Tulagi Is. which is only 1/2 mile from here and found that there are distinct sub-specific differences.)

Late in the afternoon I had some experience with a couple of Gela island swine. Two native missionaries had a fine canoe and were going over to Tulagi, only 15 minutes trip. I offered them i shilling to take me along. This is the same as a day's wages. They only laughed and told me to keep the shilling and went on their way. I did not have sense enough to get into the canoe first. These people are always expecting favors from white people but are reluctant to do anything in return for fear that they will not be well rewarded. Gela men had a bad reputation for treachery and meanness when they were incivilized.

April 28th.-Monday. At last we have received $10,000 from the Whitney fund and we can soon wipe out all the debts and start new.

I put all the insects in the sun, packed up all the rest of the shells for shipment and also sent

a box of things to Henry Kuper.

April 29th.- Tuesday. Wrote letters. Walked across Tulagi Is.

April 30th.-Wednesday. Jack Ellis completed the foresail.-- Marsana came today. Bill, Hamlin and I were invited out to dinner by Capt. Crookshanks. Bill sent telegram to N.Y. 1050 birds and mammals were collected on Malaita besides over 100 taken by Hamlin on Gower island. Bill Coultas is checking over supplies.

May 1st.-Thursday. Bill is buying supplies at Makambo (B.Ps.).

I went ashore this afternoon to hunt. I could not reach the shore in several miles of stretch on account of corals. I collected a lot of marine shells on a small island then and found a new Murex. Also collected a dozen spiny red starfishes and a dozen blue ones. Picked up 16 empty kerosene tins. Very hot day.

May 2nd.-Friday. This morning I boiled the starfishes for 5 minutes and placed them in the sun. Went hunting about 10 A.M. on Galer island. Very hot afternoon. I picked up 16 empty kerosene tins again. At last I got a

Centropus. This bird has strange habits and is not at all like a cuckoo. It looks more like a hornbill. It is found only on Guadalcanar and Galer Is. (Florida) in the Solomons. Representatives of the genus extend over to Malaya. This species feeds on the ground in the morning where it picks up worms, insects and fallen fruits. Its principle diet is a peculiar kind of a nut which grows on large trees on the two islands mentioned. The bird is about 2 feet long and is black and white. It has a queer odor, probably caused from the nuts. The cry of the Centropus is strange. It grunts, barks and bellows and runs up a tree like a woodpecker and hops about from limb to limb.

On my way back to the shore, I became lost. This is a very bad district as there are few trails and the underbrush and thorny bushes and saw grass is thick. I had to fight my way thru the mangroves in the dark for several hours before I reached my row boat. I had over 30 island bush sores before I left the ship in the morning. I got them on Malaita and they have been vainly trying to heal for several weeks. With the scratches from vines and saw grass, they are worse and I now have about 50 sores. If one wears long trousers he is not apt to get island sores. About the only medicine that will help them is Chinosol. Corrosive sublimate only washes them out and the next day they are bigger. All Solomon sores leave a scar for life.

When I reached the ship I was too tired to eat altho I had nothing since morning.-- Bill packed birds until midnight. I retired early but got up again when Hamlin came back late from Gavuta with Mr. Riddall.

Our captain is a great washout. He yells at the boys all the time but is quite useless himself and won't work. The crew is painting the ship white again. Most of the bills around Tulagi have now been paid. I lost my shoes overboard.

May 3rd.-Saturday. I skinned the Centropus this morning and packed a few shells. Crew painting the ship. In afternoon, I rowed several miles in the dinghy to a small double island where I collected a gallon of shells, crabs etc. Returned to the ship at 8 P.M. I found 3 new shells and several symbiotic crabs that carry sponges on their backs.

May 4th.-Sunday. I skinned a blue and white kingfisher (Halcyon kaloproctos) and worked on the shells and the crabs in the morning.

The starfishes do not keep well after the method I used of plunging them into boiling water for 5 minutes and placing them in the hot sun. A better method is to place them in a weak solution of formalin

for 24 hours after boiling 5 minutes and then putting them in the sun.

Bill Coultas has done a very neat job of packing the birds in a large match box case. He packs them in level layers after wrapping them in newspapers. The insects collected on Mt. Kolevrat did not turn out well. Some of them are mouldy. In the future, insects should not be packed in cotton and there should always be a little paracide put into the boxes. This prevents mould.

In the afternoon I rowed around Tulagi island, visiting several smaller islands. I shot a fine specimen of Haleaster indus and collected a lot of good shells including another new Murex and brought back a large Tubipora musica or red pipe organ coral. It is about 1 foot across.

May 5th.-Monday. Bill Coultas finished packing the large case of bird skins and all the native spears, bows, arrows and clubs from the Santa Cruz islands. I worked on shells and in the afternoon rowed over to the exposed reef beyond Makambo where I hunted shells and other invertebrates. Found 3 more new species of shells and a lot of other good ones. During the last few days, I collected 30 species of crabs. The poor old skipper moans and groans a good deal of the time from fever.

May 6th.-Tuesday. I worked on the shells and starfishes in the morning and did some collecting in

the afternoon. I shot 4 birds including 1 little green heron, 1 willie wagtail, 1 midget (Diceum) and a migratory kingfisher. Bill did a lot of business. Hamlin worked on engine. Skipper sick as usual. Too much whiskey. Pleasant weather now.

May 7th.-Wednesday. I worked on shells this morning-- shot 2 birds. We moved the ship in front of Tulagi. The Maratam came this evening. Jack Riddall our new man, former clerk of Lever's at Gavuta, had an accident tonight. His gasboat steered by a drunken man, collided with another launch. Damages are 100 pounds. Going back to Gavuta the drunken fool ran into a beacon and damaged the launch some more. Mr. Riddall had nothing to do with it, but on arriving at Gavuta the drunk hit him three times while he was carrying books. The third punch knocked him unconscious.

May 8th.-Thursday. I sent my big stamp album to Seattle. I met the right reverend Dr. Goldie of Gizo in the P.O. At Carpenter's store, I also had a pleasant talk with reverend Graves of Church of England.

Mr. Riddall moved aboard. Told us the rest of the experience of last night. The major is transferring the combative drunkard to Cape Marsh plantation as overseer of tough and hard boiled Malaita bushmen. There he can do all the fighting he wishes to.-- Quite stormy today.

May 9th.-Friday. We have decided to go to Rennell Is. to explore and to collect for a couple of weeks and return to Tulagi. The Whitney Expedition has all of its debts paid now. Our native cook Aravo, boiled the peas in caustic soda to soften them.

May 10th.-Saturday. I spent the morning in writing. Went ashore to have a big saw reset. The skipper seems to be quite well again now. I had a row with him this morning. Dr. Lambert will go to Rennell Is. with us where he will try to take a census, investigate the health of the islanders and administer to cases of sickness and give serum injections to people suffering from yaws. He represents all the work of the Rockefeller foundation East of the Fiji islands over to Papua and has spent many years in the various island groups.

Mr. Watkins came aboard today. He was feeling quite hilarious as usual. I went with him to his quarters where he regaled his friends and I with beer. The Duranba (Drunkenbar) came in this evening while the Renadi and the mosquito fleet went over to Guadalcanar Is. to dedicate a new Roman Catholic mission with plenty of booze.

May 11th.-Sunday. I went on another shell collecting trip to the twin island near Tulagi. I stayed until evening. I found 4 or 5 more new shells be-

sides many other rare ones. I had a strong head wind to buck against coming back to the ship. I read "All quiet on the Western Front."

May 12th.-Monday. Telegram in bank of N.S.W.- Balance in bank is 990 pounds St. Joe the boatswain got the sack and Freddie hired in his place. Ship went over to Makambo for drinking water. I walked barefooted around the island which is profusely strewn with broken beer bottles along the path and the beach. I got 10 empty kerosene cases and put them aboard. Dr. Lambert and Mr. Barrack came aboard.

May 13th.-Tuesday.-Berande, Guadalcanar island. Sailed over to Guadalcanar Is. in the night and went ashore in the morning. Left Mr. Barrack at Berandi. I went ashore first and spent several hours on the windswept sandy beach. Altho at first sight an unpromising looking beach, I collected 54 species of shells including 8 or 9 that I did not find before. We all had a splendid dinner at Mr. Robertson's. It was a real treat. There were plenty of fine tomatoes, cucumbers, fresh fruit, meat and vegetables etc. Mr. Gordon White joined Dr. Lambert and will be his assistant on Rennell island.

Our captain insisted on anchoring here for the night altho it was early in the afternoon. We

all ordered him to proceed to Rennell island. He did not wish to miss a few hours of sleep. Not until a heated row did the old man keep on his course. He is very stubborn and will not take orders from either Mr. Coultas or Mr. Hamlin except under protest. The trouble is that he is too old for the work and is getting childish. He thinks the ship is only for him and we must be subordinate to him. It is almost impossible to reason with the old man. He is also very careless and incompetent and it is dangerous to keep him for fear he will wreck the ship. We must get a new Captain as soon as possible.

May 14th.-Wednesday-- along coast of Guadalcanar. We sailed 7-1/2 knots part of the time. This is rapid for the France. I stood wheel watches in the morning and at night. I read "A Trader in the Savage Solomon's" by Dickerson.

May 15th.-Thursday.- Near Rennell island.

Sighted Rennell Is. at 3:30 A.M.- Tacked ship all day and night to get around to the other side of the island. Dr. Lambert related a number of interesting anecdotes. He is a good story teller.

May 16th.-Friday.-- Rennell island.

Rennell island was first visited by Woodford, the naturalist and first governor of the Br. Solomon

islands on 1908. He stayed only a day or two and collected a few birds. Amongst them was the rather common endemic bird which is named in his honor Woodfordia. It is presumed that no other ship stopped there again until about 4 years ago when a recruiter of Levers went there and hired about a dozen natives and took them to Gavuta. Being wild savages and not used to strange work and away from their friends and families in a strange land, they soon pined for their island home and became quite useless. The government humanely ordered them to be taken back after 6 months. Some years ago the missionary, Dr. Norman Deck from Malaita, went to Rennell to preach the gospel. He went away shortly and left two Solomon native missionaries to continue the work. These were promptly knocked on the heads and buried by the big chief of the White Sands for interfering with the sacred taboos.

A Japanese trochus and pearl shell diver also spent several months around Rennell Is. against the law. The government gunboat Renadi has also made several trips to Rennell. Two scientists from the Australian Museum named Hogben and Stanley, an ethnologist and a geologist, spent 2 or 3 months and Mr. White of the Yaws campaign also spent a month or two.

The schooner France was there a year ago and brought iron. There was practically no iron amongst the people, only a few of them possessing axes and knives and fish hooks. They make everything out of wood, shell,

fibre and human bone. There are no quadrupeds of any kind and the only mammals are the bat and the flying fox. There is not even stone on the island, it being all coral tock. A few weapons had been fashioned from stones that had drifted to the island wedged in the roots of floating trees. There is no drinking water except very brackish water and a few seepages from rain known only to the natives. They drink cocoanut water. The people of the sea coast sleep under overhanging rocks and in caves. Only the chiefs have huts which are open on all sides. The people in the bush build temporary lean tos about 3 or 4 feet high of cocoanut palm branches stuck in the ground. Such a shelter takes about 15 minutes to build.

These people are Polynesians with a strain of Melanesian blood. They are a beautiful race of stalwart strong men and graceful, well-formed and vivacious women. They are a happy and contented people living in a state of pure communism. Division of labor is so arranged that everyone helps each other and there is never any want of food for the soil produces good yams, sweet potatoes and taro and some of the finest cocoanuts in the world, very large and with thick meat. The women are dilligent workers in their gardens. Groves of pawpaws are numerous and are eaten green. The men catch plenty of fish and the old women and children gather plenty of shell fish of many kinds. There are many varieties of wild fruits and a kind of a nut with a taste like slightly tainted cooked meat. One of the best vegetables

is the delicious panna, a kind of tuber. Bananas, pandanus and several other fruits are also eaten. Everybody chews betel nuts and they furnish the necessary stimulant that tobacco or beer furnishes to us, but with no evil effects.

All laws are governed by the taboos which the high priest gets from the big master on top when he undergoes his periodical fasts. Men may not marry before they are 25 and are more or less under restraint but females of all ages are allowed a free rein. If a girl should become pregnant without being able to prove who the father is she brings disgrace on her family. She then goes to one of the big chiefs and tells him of her condition. Being kindly disposed he will take compassion on the prospective mother and announce that he is the father of the child. He is honored and respected and nobody would dispute him. The chiefs of Rennell are the strongest and most intelligent men and when there is fighting to be done they are the principal combatants.

The Rennell islanders have no idea about where they came from or about their origin. They think the flying fox was their first mother. They probably came from Santa Cruz originally. Evidently there have been a number of parties cast up in their canoes from different islands because there are several distinct strains of blood. Rennell island is 45 by 15 miles and has a population of over 1000 with females in majority. It is an upraised coral reef of recent origin, composed

of a plateau of about 500 feet high surrounded by cliffs. It is very rough country and heavily wooded. The coast is mostly shelved in limestone cliffs or surrounded by dangerous coral reefs. It is very difficult to land even at the only possible place in good weather.

Mr. Hamlin took the France to Rennell a year ago and stayed there 2 weeks. He was hospitably received and allowed to go and hunt where he wished. A fine series of birds was collected including several endemic species and a number of new sub-species. There were only a few birds that he did not get. Many fine curios were purchased from the natives and many photos were taken. Cinema pictures were also taken but the weather was bad so they did not turn out well.

The object of making the second trip was to complete the bird series and to gain fuller knowledge of the island and its people. Dr. Lambert and Mr. White were sent by the government to investigate health conditions amongst the natives and to give injections for yaws.

The two doctors found almost an ideal condition of health amongst these people. Nearly all of them are in a state of perfect physical condition and disease is almost unknown to them except about a year ago when the Renadi introduced the flu, when a number of them died. They have a bitter grievance against the Renadi, but much friendship for the France which has brought them prosperity and administered to those few that were sick.

The Jap trochus shell diver is said to have introduced gonorrhea, but so hardy are these women that the disease wore itself out in a short time and there was no trace of it left according to the doctors.

These people know nothing at all about fighting sickness because disease was unknown before 5 years ago. If traders or missionaries succeeded in working amongst them it would only be a short time before diseases were introduced to stay. Any contagious disease could quickly destroy them because often a whole clan will crowd together for warmth at nights in the chief's hut. The government has now a strict law that only scientists and doctors with special permission from the government are allowed to visit Renell island.

Rennell island is an outlier of the Solomons to the S.W. of the group.

Dropped the hook in a large bay at the only possible anchorage on the island. A couple of natives came out first in an outrigger canoe and guided us in to a safer spot between the coral reefs before the anchor was lowered. Immediately several canoes came alongside and a swarm of natives scrambled aboard and greeted us by shaking hands all around and making a great commotion signifying their welcome to the France which had brought them their first iron the year before. Some of them could speak a little beche-de-mer English, and all of them were excited in their glee to see Mr.Hamlin

and the France again and jabbered and laughed and tried to make us understand them.

The men are the finest type of savages I have ever seen. Most of them are big strapping healthy fellows with great mops of curly hair and they wear a large strip of tappa cloth in the form of a diaper. They are tattooed on chest, arms and legs with fishes and arrows and other designs. The legs are tattooed in such a manner as to resemble golf socks.

One of the chiefs brought his two rather handsome wives aboard. One of them was taboo while the other one was free. The chief kept a watchful eye on his favorite however. Girls and women are allowed unbridled freedom on Rennell and they are very promiscuous in their amours. It is the women and girls that seduce the men and boys, for the latter are more or less restricted by the laws of the taboo and men do not generally marry before 25 years.

When the France was here before about 540 birds were taken of about 50 species. There is a large lake in the interior which is about 9 miles from here. It is about 12 miles long and 3 or 4 miles wide. On it are many water fowl. Several spoonbill cranes were seen when Hamlin was there before but none were taken because they are very shy and wary.

Hamlin and I went hunting today and got several specimens of the endemic flycatcher also pachy-

cephala, phylloscopus, Zosterops, Myzomela, rubra, Malophaga, Aplonis, and a black knobbed billed Ducula and an endemic thrush. All of these birds are different species or subspecies than they are on the other Solomon islands. Phylloscopus is common right down almost to sea level. It is a typical high mountain bird on the other islands and is generally quite shy. Here on Rennell most of the birds are very tame because they have no natural enemies except a few hawks and small snakes which are very rare. The natives only hunt the large pigeons and parrots and some of the water birds. The thrush which is quite similar to the one found on some of the larger islands is very tame, while elsewhere it is so shy and retiring that it is difficult to find and to shoot. The Aplonis is an endemic starling which is generally found in dense thickets. It has similar habits to the thrush and feeds mostly on snails. One can often find the anvil where the starling has been cracking the shells.

Myzomela rubra or red headed honey eater is quite similar to the one on the other islands. It is found on cocoanut palms and in native gardens. On the Santa Cruz islands they are trapped or shot for the brilliant head and neck feathers which are skinned out and portions sewn together into feather money.

The land shells of Rennell are not numerous in species. I found 8 kinds today which are mostly endemic. One land shell resembles a small placostyla and may be a new genus. On the sand beach I collected a few good shells in-

cluding 2 new ones. The prospects of adding many new shells to my list is not very good here.

We skinned birds until late. Jack Riddall started skinning birds tonight and does very well as a beginner. Crowds of natives were on board all day. They are a good-natured lot of savages but are extremely inquisitive and thievish. They will steal anything they take a fancy to in quite as innocent a manner as a small child does. They have no idea about value of things.

Some of their women would win beauty prizes for features and perfect form. Few of them have any blemishes except for being tatooed, which adds to their grace. They wear narrow strips of tappa cloth wrapped around the hips. These Marys are very bold and unconventional but they are happy and good-natured creatures and gentle-mannered.

May 17th.-Saturday.--Rennell island.

I went hunting this morning-- got 2 common reef herons, a common Halcyon sancta, a black knob bill Ducula and a rosy tern (Sterna Sumatrensis)- Hamlin got 2 Geoffroyus (n.sub.sps.). I collected shells and crustaceans on the beach. The doctors put up two tents on the white sand shore and tried to induce the natives to come over to be physically examined. Dr. Lambert nearly caused a war by trying to get a sample of excreta of a boy that had ring worms so he could examine it under the microscope.

They all became very excited and started to yell and fled as tho a gun had been fired amongst them. Then one of the chiefs came to the doctor and begged him not to do such a thing for they would surely die from the evil magic. We skinned birds until late.

May 18th.-Sunday. I bot a lot of curios this morning and then went hunting. I shot 6 nectarine melaphagas with one shot. They were all eating a pawpaw on the ground. Besides these I got 2 M. rubra, 2 fly-catchers, 1 wood thrush, 1 Ducula negriceps (black knot) and several common birds. So far I have found only 3 lizards, also a number of insects.

The doctors are giving injections for yaws and treating hook worm. In order to diagnose the latter disease properly, it is necessary to secure samples of human excreta to be examined under the compound microscope to determine the species. On account of the superstition of the natives, it is very difficult to get because like certain other tribes, they imagine that a conjuror can bewitch anyone or cause sickness and death with its possession. It is absolutely taboo. The doctors hope to persuade the natives to break this taboo in order to get the desired results.

Many of the natives on the coast can speak a little Beche-de-mer English, so our mission is gradually being understood by the more intelligent mem-

bers. The doctors are here to give injections for yaws; to examine natives for hook-worm and to find out what kind of diseases occur here. They are also collecting mosquitoes and larvae and flies. So far two species of Culex have been found. They are generally in evidence. No Anopheles seem to be present. There is a fly which looks much like the housefly which occurs in swarms near the White Sands, but it is apparently harmless, as it does not bite or go onto people.

We skinned birds until 9 P.M. All the men are ashore while the Marys have taken most of the available canoes and come aboard. Most of these little golden brown ladies have beautiful forms and pleasant faces. They are always smiling or laughing and showing their perfect ivory white teeth. Any one of these Marys, either single or married can be had for a two for a penny fish hook or an empty beer bottle or an empty cigarette tin. A penny is worth more than a shilling to them, probably, because it is bigger. Red beads are valued but white ones have no value. They use them as ornaments and do not know what money is.

May 19th.-Monday. There was plenty of trading this morning for ornaments, wooden shark hooks, clubs, spears, bow and arrows, mats and many other articles. Steel fish hooks seem to be the standard of currency, but pennies are also valued.

It is impossible to keep these savages out

of the cabin, galley or hold. They are into everything all the time. To try to drive them away is like shooing flies. They steal most anything they can get ahold of much as small children might do. They do not resent it or feel ashamed when made to return an article. There are many that will not steal, but others are just natural kleptomaniacs, especially is this true of the older people. The Marys are not addicted to thieving like the men are and so far we have not lost anything by them.

The Captain and Jack Riddall are in bed with heavy fever. Hamlin and I are preparing to go to the bush village of Kassawala on Lake Tengana in the morning. It rains hard every day.

These people live in a state of pure communism. There is nobody that ever lacks for food as long as there is enough to go around. If somebody received more presents or trades more things than the others, he is obliged to give some of his property to the rest. If a chief receives a quantity of necessary utensils or implements such as knives or axes, he will only retain some of the best and give the rest to his people. He is chief by right of strength, wisdom and justice and is feared and respected by his people.

May 20th.-Tuesday. Only the chiefs and important people live in huts which are open on all sides. The rest of the people sleep under small shelters made of

cocoanut palm leaves stuck in the ground. These are only big enough for 2 or 3 people to lie under and can be made in 15 minutes. It rains frequently, but mats of pandanus fibre or strips of tappa shelter them at night. Fires are either made in the open or under a shelter of palm leaves. The men and women sleep in separate shelters. Some people live in rough caves or under overhanging rocks when living near the sea.

Broken beer bottle glass is used to shave with. Fire sticks are used to produce fire.

I bought several fine clubs this morning besides other curios. Riddall cannot go with us into the bush because of fever.

Hamlin and I and the two doctors with their 3 Malaita boys went to Kassawala with 20 carriers. The distance is about 9 miles and the trail is very rough sharp and jagged coral which cuts the shoes to pieces. The trip was rather hard on Dr. Lambert who declared it to be the roughest trip he had ever made. The natives do not seem to mind it barefooted and the Marys carry the heaviest loads with ease. It rained nearly all day.

On the trail I found a peculiar fungus growing on coral rocks in the forest. They resemble truffles in shape and structure. Some of them are as large as my head. They look like brown iron stones.

When we arrived at the bush lake village of Kassawala there was a feast in progress. There we

met some of the notables of the tribe who shook hands and rubbed noses with us. One big fellow whom we nicknamed Schroeder is one of the finest looking types I have seen. He looks like a circus strong man and has noble features but a wild and savage look in his eyes. He seems to be very stupid and has no more sense than a child. He has no manners and intrudes on us and wants to be noticed all the time.

The high priest, Teketa, has just finished a fast that lasted several days and has been in a trance all the time. He told us he was talking with the Big Fella Master blong on top and has had a number of weighty questions answered. Now that he is awake, the feast of the tabooed cocoanuts has commenced. Being holy at the time, Teketa, the high priest sits on his sacred mat which no one can touch. Mr. Hamlin, the big fella master blong ship from former friendship is in great favor and liked by all. He and the doctors first pay their respects by visiting Teketa on his sacred mat, then I join them and almost make the grievious mistake of entering on the wrong side of the hut which is open all around instead of head and end. This would have been an unpardonable breach of etiquette.

These people have no regard whatsoever for restrictions or prohibitions of strangers, but are very particular about some of their own taboos, many of which seem to have no sense to us. Of course a taboo is a sacred law and they fear sickness, accident or death if such a law

is broken.

Being quite hungry I stuffed myself on delicious pannas and yams and drank plenty of cocoanut milk. We slept in a native hut.

May 21st.-Wednesday. Kassawala is a village of one hut about 20 ft. X 12 ft., open on all sides, another hut about 1/3 of this size and a number of small shelters large enough for several people to lie close together under. There is also a woman's cooking house and a hut for single girls. Last night we 4 white men sat together on the ground in the main hut talking with Booya and Moa, the sons of the two most important chiefs of Rennell island. There were 35 people crowded together in this small space of about 240 square feet.

On Lake Tengana which is about 12 miles long and 3 or 4 miles wide and varying depth, are many water birds. Practically all of these had been taken before except the white spoonbill crane of which there were several elusive specimens. They are very shy and wary. The natives said they knew of only 3 specimens and these had been resident a long time and did not breed.

Tengana lake is surrounded by marshes and shallows. Deep, stinking mud covered with mangroves, pandanus and other marsh trees surround this side of the

is broken.

lake. As the wind blows more steadily from across the lake, the stinking rotten vegetation is added to by large quantities of excreta from water fowl which drifts in constantly. The bottom of the lake beyond the mud is clean white volcanic sand mixed with fossil coral sand and strewn with coral bowlders with here and there the fossil coral bedrock protruding. The water is quite brackish but not very salty. It is not used by the people.

The soil of Rennell island is marvellously rich and produces a fine quality of whatever crops that are planted that will grow in the Solomon islands. On account of the great size of the cocoanuts and the thick rich meat they contain and the prolific quantity that will grow on a tree, the island if planted heavily would produce fortunes for planters but I hope this time will never come, for it would be the ruination of culture for these people who will never be happier or more contented than they are at the present time. We as members of the W.S.S. Expedition and the two Doctors will ask the governor of the Br. Solomons to convert Rennell and Bellona islands into permanent reservations to keep the people in their natural state of culture as much as possible. Missionaries should be strictly tabooed as well as traders and pearl divers. Only doctors and naturalists should be allowed to visit the islands in the interests of health and science.

A few garden vegetables and fruits should be introduced, such as maize, tomatoes, a better grade of

bananas and oranges. Cucumbers would also grow well. The government could also introduce some garden tools at little expense.

There are many outrigger canoes on the lake. Two young boys, Tangako and Takovi, the latter being a son of one of the two big chiefs went with me to hunt on the lake. Both of these young fellows could speak some pigeon and are the best boys I have found so far. I wanted very much to get a spoonbill if possible of which two were known to inhabit this end of the lake. It was not long before we spotted one in a marsh. I shot at him but missed. Then we followed him around several hours when finally Tangako shot him. This is one of the prize birds of Rennell island for it is probably the only record of this species from the Br. Solomons altho it is more or less abundant on the lakes of Australia and probably New Guinea also.

I shot a few ducks for kai kai. They are the common species Anas superciliosa. There are plenty of ducks on the lake, but the natives do not eat them. They are taboo. Pigeons and doves are eaten by the men while such foul birds as cormorants and the less offensive grebes and parrots are for the Marys. If there are any tabooed fishes against the Marys, they are generally the better flavored varieties.

Taboos are man made, for there are no priestess so it is quite simple and natural for the high priest to favor the men by placing taboos on the Marys

against eating fish and fowl of better quality. On garden vegetables it is not so easy, for the Marys raise them and do the cooking.

Taboos have also been attempted to curb the amorous natures of some of the Marys but have met with failure. It is said that occasional canoe loads of Marys are sometimes taken over to the neighboring island of Bellona where the people are more fierce and savage and there they are married off or turned loose. Some of the Rennell islanders also marry Bellona women.

Mr. White set up our tent and I tried to skin birds. I had a hell of a time, for the tent was instantly filled with natives, eager with curiosity. They crowded so much that I could hardly move. As soon as a tool was laid down, somebody would pick it up to look at it or to pinch it if possible. Mr. Hamlin was down with fever in one of the huts.

May 22nd.-Thursday.-- Rennell island.-- Kassawala on Lake Tengana. It rained heavily nearly all day long. I went hunting with the two boys Tangako and Tahovi. I shot a lot of ducks for kai kai. With one lucky shot I got 5 ducks; also got a geoffroyus, wood thrush and a bush heron. The last named is widely distributed but is a new record for the island.

Skinning birds in our tent or attempting any kind of work has become so difficult on account of the

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Skinning birds in our tent or attempting any kind of work has become so difficult on account of th

natives crowding us and whom we are unable to keep out, that we have decided to hunt only a few of the most desirable birds and to try to get some pictures when the sun comes out.

Old man Schroeder, the strong man, is the most infernal pest and persistent bore that I have ever seen. He speaks only half a dozen words of pigeon. He wants to be friendly and hospitable and to show his great esteem for us; he wants to give Hamlin his pretty little daughter of about 15 years age. The young lady is also of the same opinion as her papa and has probably put him up to it. We profess ignorance of his meaning and try to change the subject, but he tells us over and over again the same thing. He tries to please us in his crude way, but it is like the fable about the little lap dog and the donkey who tried to imitate the dog by jumping in his master's lap to be petted.

Mothers are much pleased when one shows a little interest in their youngest offspring and especially to hold it for her while it is nursing. These people are very congenial and affectionate and are frequently rubbing noses or walking arm in arm. Some husbands consider it a marked favor for one to embrace his wife before him and praise her merits. Instead of feeling jealous he feels proud and the wife smiles her affection to him. Small boys as a prank frequently try to steal milk from a mother's breast when her baby is being held by someone

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else. I saw this happen 3 times since yesterday. A saucy young urchin would quickly grab a mother's breast and hang on while trying to suck her milk. This is considered a huge joke.

In the afternoon the sun came out a little and the natives gave a rather impressive dance before the hut of Teketa who had finished his religious communication with the Big Fella Master along top and had broken his fast by eating and drinking an incredible quantity of cocoanut milk.

Dr. Lambert and Mr. Hamlin both took cinema pictures of the dance, but one of the natives insisted on bothering the doctor all the time, so his pictures were spoiled, much to his overwhelming disgust. Teketa then presented us with large bunches of green cocoanuts and vegetables.

My two boys Tangako and Takovi have proven to be better help to me than any of the others, but Booya and Moa have rendered the most desirable service by giving Dr. Lambert information and the census of the district. Already Booya has given the names of over 500 people.

May 23rd.-Friday. The doctors finished their work at this place this morning and went back to the White Sand. Before they went, I shot some ducks for them to take back to the ship.. It rained hard all day. In the afternoon I went with Hamlin and several boys to a

small island for a swim. There I collected a few animals from the water including 2 species of Melania. Life in Lake Tengara is meagre in number of species and I was surprised to find so little. There are 2 species of prawns which are common and form the principal food of the 1 small species of fish which is common. It reaches a length of 4 to 6 inches and is taken in dip nets by the natives. These and the prawns are one of the chief foods of the cormorants, grebes, ibis and ducks. Surface shippers, water boatmen and a water beetle are also common. In the mud mixed with volcanic and coral sands are red hair worms and daphne. In the rotten mud near the shore are water tigers, the larvae of dragon flies and other insects and worms. Samples of algae and mud and rock scrapings were not taken altho they are probably rich in microscopic life.

I saw several large Waranus indus on the margin of the lake. They are the largest animals on the island. Hamlin saw a strange water snake in the lake.

The elevation of Lake Tenganana is only a few fathoms above sea level, so it is of quite recent origin and species of animals, all of which belong to a freshwater fauna, have not had time to diversify much.

One of the boys showed us an innocent looking vine on a small island in the lake, the leaves of which when bruised are used for stunning fishes in a very short time. A small quantity of the milky juice

and leaves are dropped into a tide pool. Soon the fishes will turn their bellies up and float to the surface. A small bunch of twigs tied to a large fish hook is said to be potent enough to stun sharks. This vine belongs to the Sapotacae.

May 24th.-Saturday. This morning before the break of day a crowd of Marys and some young men sat on thier haws outside of our tent and watched us until the sun started to come up. Then some of the Marys started to beat their foreheads bloody with sharp sticks and howl dismally while others hummed their monotonous chant. I did not find out what was the meaning of such a queer performance. The same thing happened on several other mornings. They were probably mourning the death of near relatives.

It rained hard today but I went hunting on the lake again, shot a few ducks and several other desirable birds to skin. I saw a large Varanus indus about 4 feet long which I wounded but it got away. I went to a neighboring village on the lake and shot a couple of small birds. There I saw a most perfectly formed wild savage beauty with laughing Oriental eyes and teeth like pearls. She has a great mop of frizzly hair and is profusely tattooed with fishes and arrows all over body, arms and legs. Her breasts and muscles are well nigh perfect. Around her loins she wears a narrow strip of tappa cloth and her skin where not tattooed is a shining soft golden brown. Such a

strange type of beauty could well cause a sensation in a civilized country.

May 25th.-Sunday. The bush beauty came over from the lake village today. She was taboo. I saw her throw herself down, bury her face in the earth and bite the ground as tho in pain. Then she got up smiling as tho nothing ailed her. I cannot figure out the meaning of such a strange performance.

Mr. Hamlin used to say months ago that on Rennell island were such beautiful women that he never expected to see better or more perfect looking ones anywhere. I always doubted his word and thought that his judgment was poor, but this young female savage does not miss the mark very much and Hamlin never saw this one before.

Results of our trip to Lake Tengana were as follows. The doctors and Mr. Hamlin got a lot of pictures of natives and customs. They obtained a census of the lake district, made good friends with the chief and found that there was very little disease amongst the people. Yaws of the feet in a not advanced stage was about the only disease apparent at this time and it is caused by cutting the feet on the sharp coral rocks. Our most important acquisition in the bird line was the spoonbill, a new record for the Solomons, two grebes, 2 bush herons and a number of other desirable birds. A small

collection of the lake fauna was made and customs of the people were observed and noted. Doctors Hogben and Stanley also spent time on the lake and at Kassawala studying the natives when they were here about 18 months ago.

May 26th.-Monday. This morning Hamlin and I went back to the White Sands with about 20 carriers after a great preparation and farewell at Kassawalla. Most of the population that was not already down on the coast near the France came along. The trail which is about 9 miles long is exceedingly rough with sharp pointed fossil coral bedrock. Dr. Lambert declared on his trip to the village that it was the roughest trail he had ever traveled on. My shoes went all to pieces, so I threw them away and walked over 3 miles of the worst part barefooted. My feet are quite tough so I only got one cut from a sharp stone that rolled when I stepped on it. The carriers brought in several loads of cocoanuts, pannas and taro for us.

On the trail I collected a number of peculiar coral rock fungus. They look like brown iron stones in general appearance and range in size from a baseball to a small man's head. They are a kind of truffles and have the texture of that fungus.

May 27th.-Tuesday. I bought a lot of curios at bargain prices. The natives are into everything and it is nearly impossible to keep them out of the cabin

and galley or elsewhere. This morning several of them crowding into the small galley accidently pushed the cook against the stove. He then took a hot frying pan off of the fire and held it against the posterior of one of the savages. The brute did not budge however and paid no attention. Thereupon the cook boy said "This fellow ass blong this one he all same ass blong piggypig."

Being perfect communists, these people take anything that suits their fancy, but do not consider it stealing. They are just like small children in takimg things and when detected they give it back smiling. A favorite trick is to steal the things they have stolen and resell them. If somebody has several knives or more things than the rest, he is obliged to hand over the surplus to the laxier ones who do not possess such things. Practically all the Marys from ten years up and whether single or married are allowed to practice prostitution. The standard price for a woman is a half penny fishhook or an empty beer bottle, or she may receive a yard of calico or a cheap scissors or a 5 penny mirror for sleeping with a man. In the morning when leaving the ship when their men swarm aboard, the Marys are generally relieved of most of their scant earnings by whatever men are at hand. They give up all of the fish hooks they have received and also fish lines and knives.

Our native hunter turned in some good birds today. The doctors have at last succeeded in getting plenty of faecies or samples of human excreta to examine for hookworms. They also collected numerous samples of two species of mosquitoes, probably both Culex, and a kind of fly that comes in swarms but does not bite. A number of injections were given for yaws.

A peculiar custom amongst the Marys in the bush is to do a lot of wailing or keening as some people call it. First the beat their foreheads bloody with a sharp stick and as the blood trickles down the face they howl most dismally. I suppose it is a kind of mourning in honor of a dead relative but I could not find out just why they did it. Nearly every morning while Hamlin and I were at Kassawalla some of the Marys would come to our tent at break of day sitting on their hams contemplating us. Pretty soon one or two of them would start to howl for about 5 minutes.

May 28th.-Wednesday. I went hunting and got a few good birds including a small migratory cuckoo, new record for the island. I had a lot of old auxiliary cartridges, but most of them missed fire. I sent 4 of our boys out hunting with a lot of these old shells and they brought back many birds, but most of them common. Bill Coultas stove a hole into the lifeboat.

The husband of Keipua, who is a most per-

sistent and obnoxious rascal, persisted in trying to come into the cabin this evening. Dr. Lambert became very angry and threw him out and drove him ashore. Afterwards about 2 A.M., Keipua caused a most terrific row in the hold amongst about 16 other Marys. The fight was between her and the sweetheart or bethrothed of our native hunter who has been true to him. For over an hour there was bedlam and pandemonium amongst the savage Marys but there were no casualties.

Two of the head chiefs, Tahoa and Tapongi, came aboard and brought us a large quantity of cocoanuts. A couple of old women did some thieving last night. The young ones do not steal.

Buya, son of Tahoa, has rendered as much assistance by giving almost a complete census of Rennell island. There are over 1000 people on the island with quite a surplus of Marys.

If a single girl becomes pregnant and has a child, her parents may make much trouble for her because she has no husband, but she need only to state her condition to one of the big chiefs who thereupon publicly announces that he is the father of the child. She is then in favor with her parents and safe from all criticism because nobody dares to dispute the word or the right of the big chiefs.

May 29th.-Thursday.-- Rennell to Bellona Is.

Up anchor and down the coast of Rennell island with Buya and Moa. Stopped at one place where we wished

to go ashore. The natives of this part of the island are hostile to the two clans that we were friendly with. No foreigners have ever landed at this place unless it was one of the Missionaries. The chief of the clan came out in his canoe and told us not to land or we would be attacked. Dr. Lambert gave him an axe and asked to be given the census but the old wily fellow would give no information except for us to keep away from his place, so we sailed on to Bellona island which is about 15 miles from Rennell. We reached an anchorage in the evening but drifted onto a coral patch where the France pounded and crunched until we hauled in the anchor chain. The anchor jambed fast in the coral so we pulled until the chain snapped leaving about 6 fathoms of it. Heaved to and tacked ship all night and came back early in the morning and dropped the spare hook.

May 30th.-Friday-- Bellona island. Anchored at Bellona island. To our knowledge and from native information no white men have ever landed on Bellona. It is only about 5 square miles, being about 2 miles wide and about 3 miles long. It is a wild and rough looking island hemmed in on all sides by coral reefs. There are two anchorages and the current runs strong. Only at rare intervals when the wind is not blowing too much and when the weather is fine is it possible to find a precarious anchorage at one place where there is a small beach. The

island is a miniature of Rennell as regards formation and flora but there is no lake and conditions for the poor natives are much worse than on Rennell because of more restricted isolation and large population. There are about 500 people on Bellona which is about 80 times the proportion of population compared with that of Rennell. The island is an upraised coral plateau about 200 feet high and the coasts are mostly shelved in coral limestone cliffs with many sea caves. The surf forever pounds and dashes high against the rocky shores. This makes it very difficult for the people to launch their outrigger canoes and fish in the offing.

Some of the Bellona people occasionally visit Rennell island and they are more or less intermarried. Once in a while a party of Rennell islanders will take over a bunch of overly promiscuous Marys to Bellona and leave them there. Some of them get married and the others eventually return to their friends on Rennell. In former times there was quite a lot of fighting between the two peoples. At present they are more or less at peace.

On Rennell island the last fight occured about a year ago when one of the chiefs treacherously murdered Buya's real father, while he slept. He was most powerful chief on the island. The feud was then settled in a most remarkable manner, as testified by native witnesses and also by the Japanese Trochus and pearl shell diver

who was there at the scene. After killing the chief, the murderer escaped with his 4 followers who together had been visiting him. It was a very stormy night and there was much thunder and lightning. They had just launched their outrigger and were paddling away furiously while the people were gathering on the beach in great confusion because of the sudden death of their beloved chieftain. All at once a blinding flash of lightning struck near the shore and a piercing cry from the escaping canoe. The murderer was dead and none of the others were touched. The 4 men in the canoe had nought to do with the real killing so they were free from attack. Their was great rejoicing then for the ancient feud had thus been wiped out by a direct Act of God. It was as Buya said, for he speaks fairly good beche-la-mar or beche-lum as he calls it. "Big Master blong on top he cross too much along this fellow. He killum die finish altogether."

As soon as we dropped anchor at Bellona a horde of very wild and fierce looking savages armed with all kinds of their primitive weapons swarmed aboard jabbering and gesticulating and making a fearful din. These fellows are much more aggressive looking and untamed than those of Rennell or any other place we have been. Of course none of them understands a word of Beche-la-mer as they have never seen white people or any others except Rennell islanders. It must have caused a great sensation amongst them at our sudden appearance but they did not seem

the least frightened. Everyone of them carry spears and arrows tipped with human bones or else they have very effective fighting clubs of various types. These people have never seen iron before or anything else of civilized make. They make everything from wood, shell, fibre or human bones and fish bones. There are no quadrupeds, there is no drinking water except from cocoanuts and a little rain water caught in canoes and like on Rennell there is no stone.

About 25 of these fellows stayed on board while Bill Coultas, Hamlin and the two doctors with their Malaita boys went ashore. I had to stay aboard to keep guard while the skipper and Mr. Riddall were both in their bunks with heavy fever as usual. Buya's wife is a daughter of the big chief of Bellona Is. so that is why we were not molested and we were treated with welcome. He also did all of the translating. This bunch of wild fellows was more easy to handle than the Rennell island outfit because we placed a strict taboo upon entering the cabin and the hold. When one of them succeeded in getting down into the cabin, I promptly gave him the bum's rush out of it. This we could not do on the other island because they figured that if we allowed women to be in the cabin they could come also.

I bought a lot of fine curios at the rate of a fish-hook each. There was one fine club that I wanted badly. I offered a good price for it but was turned down with disdain. Then I came along with an empty beer bottle

to see if I could buy something with it. The fellow with the fancy club came over quickly handed me the weapon and made a wild grab for the bottle and ran off to his friends chuckling with glee. Now, had we only known before hand what value empty beer bottles were we could have brought enough from Tulagi which lie around by thousands to purchase all the curios on Bellona Is. and a hundred Marys into the bargain but unfortunately we had thrown most of our own away. They break the bottles and use the glass for shaving with, cutting hair and as knives. I saw some of the Marys at Kassawalla shaving all the hair off with broken glass.

One of the most curious weapons they have, which the Rennell islanders also use, is a kind of a war club with a broad curved blade like head shaped like a sickle on a long handle. It is carved out of a banyan knee and is very strong. The blade is pretty sharp all around and being heavy and when swiftly swung about, it can easily give a death blow to an assailant. The use of this weapon is various and ingenious. It makes a very good paddle for an outrigger canoe and an ideal rudder at the same time. It is used for killing sharks and when shot at with spears and arrows, it makes an excellent shield for head and upper part of body. Besides its flail like use in battle, its curve renders it very effective in crippling the legs of an assailant or breaking the neck.

In the afternoon I went ashore to collect shells on the hard wave swept coral bedrock. About 20 natives assisted me in this work. I found a lot of good shells but only 1 that was new to me. Of the 6 or 7 land shells which I picked up in a garden, there were no new ones. They are all widely distributed thruout the Solomons. The 3 kinds of lizards that I saw are also widely distributed. I did not have time to go into the bush.

Bill Coultas and our Rennell island hunter came back with a rare hawk and a new record of a rare cuckoo. Coultas reported the avifauna as very scarce and poorly represented. He only heard one or two in the bush besides the hawk that he shot. He showed the Bellona natives all the different kinds of birds taken on Rennell Is. They only recognized 14 species.

All day long there was a big crowd of very wild looking Marys on the beach trying to get hold of a canoe so they could come aboard and sew wild oats, but we gave orders not to allow any Bellona Marys on board for fear of trouble. They seemed to be dreadfully disappointed when we heaved up the anchor and left Bellona and sailed on our way back to Rennell island. Our water supply is getting very low.

May 31st.-Saturday.--White Sand's-- Rennell Island. Arrived at the White Sand's anchorage. The head chief, Tahoa, was very pleased that we had kept our word

by coming back so promptly at the promised time. A little more bartering was done, but most of the native curios are finished and they demand high prices for what is left. Hamlin and the doctors bought some good mats for a knife a piece. It takes a Mary sometimes months to make a good mat.

Bill had a row with the skipper last night because he insists on yelling so much at the crew. The old man is useless and as stubborn as a mule. He has been babied too much and is hopelessly self-centered.

June 1st.-Sunday. There is a small stream of brackish water on the white sand. The boys made a number of trips ashore for water and filled our takes. The water is very unpalatable. This is the last day on Rennell, so a lot of good will presents were handed out to the two big chiefs Tahoa and Tapongias well as to their sons Buya and Moa and to the high priest Teketa. They in turn gave some good mats and fancy sticks etc. The doctors spent the day completing the census. Nine thrushes, a Domicella and a Nicobar pigeon were brought in today. A great crowd of about 50 Marys spent the night on the ship as a farewell party.

June 2nd.-Monday.-- Rennell island and to sea. About 6 A.M. all of the Marys were put ashore and as the anchor was being heaved, the two chiefs and the

crown princes came aboard to shake hands and say good-bye. Aravo, the cook boy has a bad eye, a case of conjunctivitis. His left eye is quite serious.

Bill Coultas told the captain that he would receive his discharge in Samarai, but he should have notified the old devil two months ago.

June 3rd.-Tuesday.-- at sea-- I stood two hours wheel watch early this morning and caught cold and fever. Little progress during the night. Crew packed Dr. Lambert's curios. The Dr. gave us a lot of information about the Gilbert and Ellice islands. Captain Burrell handed in his resignation to Mr. Coultas.

June 4th.-Wednesday. Sighted San Cristoval island at 7:50 A.M. and Guadalcanar at 8:00 A.M. I was very sick all night with gastric malaria. Dr. White gave me a quinine solution injection. He also gave Bill Coultas a long list of useful drugs for service aboard ship. Stopped at Aola, Guadalcanar Is. Altho the weather was fine, the skipper again refused to sail the ship at night. There was the usual heated brawl. He is contrary to almost every reasonable suggestion and cannot be trusted in a tight place.

June 5th.-Thursday-- Tulagi. Reached Tulagi at 1:10 P.M. Learned that the Renadi had left for Rennell island in quest of us. Thinking that maybe we had been

ok

attacked, the Resident Commissioner (Governor) went in person with the Chief of Police and 30 heavily armed police and a machine gun to Rennell. I think this is rather stupid on the part of the govt., but since the Sinarango affair of 1-1/2 years ago, they are not taking many chances.

We are anchored in the same place where we were blown ashore before, but the skipper wants to be close to the center of Tulagi, so he won't have to go far to play cards.

I was confined to my bunk all day with heavy gastric fever.

June 6th.-Friday. Coultas bought another anchor, some oars and some oil. The skipper set the anchor. He is very crabby today. I have bad fever and no appetite since I got it.

June 7th.-Saturday.- Tulagi Hospital.--

Hamlin wrote an article for the government year book of the Solomons about the flora and fauna of Rennell island. I went to the hospital. Quinine injections into the blood are more effective than in the stomach. Coultas and Riddall came to see me this evening. Hamlin and the skipper are both down with fever. The Marsena came today. I managed to write a letter for Thea.

June 8th.-Sunday. I am very weak, but am

gradually getting a little appetite. I read Zane Grey's (Rainbow Trail). Bill Coultas is also sick. It is very stormy at this time.

June 9th.-Monday. Am still very weak-- tried to walk around abit today, but had to give it up. Have been reading a lot about birds in Newton's Dictionary of birds. Also wrote two long letters. Clench and brother Herbert- Wireless mast broken down by high winds.

June 10th.-Tuesday. High winds. I am improving and getting a better appetite. Read Newton's Dictionary of Birds.

June 11th.-Wednesday. I am quite weak yet. The captain is very sick. High winds. Two anchors out on the ship.

June 12th.-Thursday.-- Tulagi.-- I left the hospital this morning. Still pretty shaky. Crew loaded up ship with firewood. We are waiting for wireless message from Sydney bank. Bill sold his old typewriter for 3 bottles of wine and a bottle of formaldehyde. Robertson sqiled for Samarai this morning.

June 13th.-Friday. The R.C.'s wife is very anxious to get some nice sea-shells, so I was dele-

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June 13th.-Friday. The R.C.'s wife is very anxious to get some nice sea-shells, so I was dele-

gated to make a collection for her. On the beaches between Tulagi and the police barracks, I got many good shells including 2 new ones. It was a long hard walk but I am rapidly regaining strength.

June 14th.-Saturday. Another row with the Captain this morning. The wind blew hard all day but I rowed against it out to the Twin islands, where I gathered many fine shells for the wife of the governor. I have over 200 species for her now. We wil take 3 Solomon boys with us to Samarai and must place a bond for each with the gov't. Jack Ulava is working for us again and signed on for a year. We also have Charlie Lonsdale from Isabel and Bielow, a Malaita bush boy. Mr. Campbell sent back our shot gun which we had left at Kira-Kira last Xmas.

June 15th.-Sunday. Hamlin visited the R.C. and gave the Mrs. the two boxes of shells that I collected for her. She was well pleased with them. I finished packing a large box of Rennell island curios. There are many rats aboard now. They came aboard at Gavuta while lying beside the dock before going to Rennell. Caught 2 rats.-- High wind still blowing.

The Marys of Rennell island are a healthy crowd and nobody developed any ill effects from associating with them.

June 16th.-Monday. Paid all remaining bills in Tulagi and purchased additional supplies. Our crew now consists of Capt. Burrill, Wm. Coultas, Ham. Hamlin, W.J.Eyerdam, Jack Riddall and the three native boys. Two of them are good sailors. They have all signed on for 1 year. Heaved up the anchor at 2:00 P.M. and set sail for Samarai, Papua.

June 17th.-Tuesday.-- at sea-- I am on the 8:00 to 12:00 A.M. and the 8:00 to 12:00 P.M. watches. We passed the Russell group and the New Georgia islands today. The wind is rather slack. In allof our sailing about the Solomons, I have not yet seen a whale except the dead blackfish that I cut up on Choiseul island. Today I saw large flying fishes about 10 inches long. Sea birds and pelagic life seem to be scarce.

June 18th.-Wednesday. Several small outliers of the Russell group were still in sight this afternoon.-- Monotonous sailing-- only very slight wind.

June 19th.-Thursday. Still in sight of land.-- Sailed 10 miles in 24 hours. Wrote a long letter to F.S.Hall.-- Nearly flat calm-- Engine used a few hours.

June 20th.-Friday. Saw a number of sea birds including several rare black and white petrels, the

same that Beck discovered as new. Tropic birds and boobys-- Better sailing today. I rigged up a new stove pipe out of kerosene cans.

June 21st.-Saturday. Good breeze-- position uncertain-- Expected to find an anchorage tonight.--Looking for the Loughlin reefs. The cockroaches and ants have shown notable decrease since repeated bait have been laid out for them. The wash of the bilges have also killed a lot of them. Rats on the increase.

June 22nd.-Sunday. Passed the Laughlin group of low lying reefs and atolls about 3 A.M. in a squall. By sheer luck in dark night, we passed them by very closely and nearly ran slab dab into Woodlark island at daybreak. The island which is quite small has seen plenty of mining activity during the past generation and is still being worked on a small scale. Mr. Hamlin collected birds on Woodlark as well as most of the adjacent islands including the Louisades, D'Entrecasteau, Rossell and Trobriands. We could not find an anchorage in the following night.

June 23rd.-Monday- Samarai. Sighted islands adjacent to Papuan coast at daybreak. Passed between Hull and Blackeney islands after 4 A.M. Narrowly missed a 4 foot mud bank. Arrived at Samarai at noon.

Prince of Wales birthday holiday. Dr. Lewis and a customs man came aboard. Went to a movie show this evening. The first in 11 months. We learned that we had just caught the tail end of a hurricane during the last 2 days which did a lot of damage to shipping in these waters. One vessel lost with crew of 12 and a white man and his 4 children. His wife was saved. Many small boats in harbor due to the storm. Plenty of mail today. News from New York that over $10,000 has been advanced. Royal Endeavor coming from Port Moresby. The weather is inclement. It reminds me of fall weather in S.E.Alaska and is quite chilly. Very strong current here in China strait. Letters received from Thea, Ed. Post, Dr. Lindholm, Dr. Drier, Eric Hulten, Dr. Murphy etc.

June 24th.-Tuesday. Information from New york says $14,500 has been sent since Dec. 2nd.-- Hamlin, Coultas and Riddall ashore doing business. Ham. visited the R.M. A cable from Dr. Sanford "omit New Caledonia, make Kusai and Carolines next move" Sanford. We will have to decide, however, for ourselves which is best to undertake. It depends upon ample funds, crew etc. I washed clothes all day. The rats had destroyed 3 of Wm. Coultas' best trousers. The skipper is very ill with fever.

June 25th.-Wednesday. Today is the anniversary of Coultas and I leaving Seattle for the South Seas.

The weather is bad every day. The current running thru China strait is very strong. Hamlin was in a launch crossing the strait. Found three grass kilted Marys in a water logged canoe which was sinking. Towed them across to Samarai.

I wrote an article about Kamchatkan flora. I would not have imagined formerly that it could seem cold and miserable so near the Equator. The fact is that it is not really cold but because the blood is thin a few degrees less than the regular temperature is appreciably felt when one goes about half naked.

A friend of Hamlin's came aboard and invited him and Riddall to a series of drinks. The latter became quite hilarious and rather reckless upon his return to the ship. Bill and I could not quite get into the spirit of merriment because when one is sober, he cannot appreciate the feeling or humor of another in a state of inebriation.

We are doing a lot of planning and studying about the advisability of going to the Carolines or to New Caledonia. The many obstacles and cost of extra expenses and the great amount of water space to be traveled in the far flung Jap mandate seems to put them into disfavor as far as we can see ahead in the near future.

Skipper ill with fever.

June 26th.-Thursday. Continuation of dirty Alaska weather.-- Heaved up the anchor and tied up the ship

at the wharf where the tanks were filled with water, then anchored out again. I spent 2 hours on the beach and walked around the island. I found 15 shells new to me. This being winter on this side of the Tropics, is rather a poor time of the year for collecting shells. Skipper ill with fever.

June 27th.-Friday. Skipper ill with fever. Very bad weather. Put up sails to dry. Tore two holes in them. Radio from N.S.W. bank states a balance of 815:5:9 pounds for June 26th.

June 28th.-Saturday. Hamlin and Riddall went to a dance last night and today at Gilligilli to a wedding. The skipper went to the hospital. Radio sent to Capt. Lang, Sydney, N.S.W. asking if he will take the ship at 34 pounds per month, with same agreement as before. I collected some more shells. So far I have found about 25 sp. new to me. High winds and stormy currents. I wrote most of the day.

June 29th.-Sunday. Bill and I packed up some curios. Both of us are not feeling well. Continuation of high winds. Note-- Native laborers in Papua receive 10 shillings per month and keep. Those about Samarai do not wear many ornaments. Most of them wear earrings. The Marys have big leaf or grass shirts. There are no Chinamen. About a dozen half castes are here. The white

population is about 100.

June 30th.-Monday. The weather is very bad. I stayed aboard all day with only Ulava Jack. The wind and current were so strong that we expected any moment the anchor chain would part or that the winch drum would get jerked out. I let out the spare anchor but it did not help. With plenty of heavy rope wrapped around the chain and blocks much of the strain was taken from the winch. I was much relieved when Coultas and Charlie came aboard. Wrote letters the rest of the day. The Beulah of San Francisco arrived.

July 1st.-Tuesday. Had to move the France out of the way for the Beulah so she could get to the dock. The heavy weather has broken. I went ashore for 2 hours and found two new shells. We went to the movies in the evening. Saw the "Sky raiders" with Nungisser as hero and the "Plastic Age" a college play starring Clara Bow.

I sent a telegram to Thea stating that I come to Germany in December.

July 2nd.-Wednesday. Wrote a letter to my folks at home asking them to send father to Germany. Also letters to Dr. Murphy, Eric Hulten and Thea. Collected shells in the afternoon. Found 3 or 4 new ones. The captain is out of the hospital. The crew had a night out with the Papuan Marys.

population is about 100.

July 3rd.-Thursday. Hamlin and Riddall came back from the wedding. It had been a very hilarious affair. The groom was pickled for 3 days and then took the bride out for an auto ride. He ran into a bridge and wrecked it and the car. Bill sent his box of curios on the Beulah. I wrote ten letters. Riddall had a night out on shore.

July 4th.-Friday. We hung up all the flags. I wrote letters all day. Bought 2 pairs of silk pyjama suits, price 1 pound each.

July 5th.-Saturday. Took the France to the dry dock at Bellisana. Went to the movies-- saw Wallace Beery and Hatfield in "Behind the Front" and the "American Venus", both good.

July 6th.-Sunday.-- Bellisana dry dock, Papua. I overlooked the outside of hull of the France for flaws and breaks in the copper plates. She seems to be in pretty sound condition and has only a few missing plates, but some of the old ones need to come off. I collected about 2 quarts of shells from her bottom, mostly oysters and barnacles. Also found 3 shells new to me, 1 bivalve and 2 gastropods. Walked several miles in the bush to look for birds. They seem to be quite scarce in this locality. The land shells are few but all strange

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to me. Beck and Hamlin made pretty thoro collections of birds in this vicinity. As we have no permits to hunt in Papua at present, it is unfortunate that we cannot do any collecting.

July 7th.-Monday. This morning Captain Burrill got the sack and was paid off with 3 months extra pay. He made a great fuss over 10 shillings which he thot were owed to him. Hamlin, Riddall and Coultas went to Samarai. I went into the bush-- collected a few shells, ants and insects. Very poor for shells. Ants of many species are everywhere and are likely the reason for paucity of shells. I went to Eichorn's old cocoanut plantation. It is occupied by a squatter now who also raises cattle. The soil is very poor. I gathered a large sack of rough skinned lemons.

July 8th.-Tuesday. I went with Charlie and Bellue in the dinghy up the creek where we did a big washing and gathered fire-wood for the ship. Bill has fever. Hamlin and Riddall took the engine to Gilly-Gilly.

July 9th.-Wednesday. Everybody is happy now that the skipper is gone. He was such a chronic old crab. In the afternoon, I made a long trip along the beach and collected a large lot of shells including 4 or 5 new ones. Hamlin and Riddall returned late in the after-

noon with the engine.

July 10th.-Thursday. I cleaned guns all morning. I am making a collection of corals. There are many species on the reef. I got about 25 different kinds. Shells are rather scarce on the reef but there are many strange species of small crustaceans and fishes.

Birds collected on Malaita.

Willies village is perched on the side of a steep hillside at an elecation of about 1300 feet. It is a long day's march up the Koaree-ekwa river from Suu in the A-a-erunga district (water bushmen). A week was spent in hunting birds in this locality and all of the surrounding hills within a day's round trip, were explored by Hamlin, Coultas and Eyerdam and half a dozen native hunters. The highest elevation reached was about 3000 feet, but the birds were everywhere of the same species as found around Suu and were even scarcer. The only bird that we did not already get from Malaita before, was a young specimen of the widely distributed and often too common Macropegia rufa. Only this single specimen was seen. On top and on the ridges of Mt. Koleorat, it was very common.

The general character of the forests and under brush is the same near Willies village as it is in the hills near Suu.

Our camp on Mt. Kolevrat (Torumbuso) was situated at elevation of 4200 feet in dense virgin forest. This was within less than 5 minutes walk to the summit. A trail follows the ridges and goes right over the top of Kolevrat which top is several meters wide. The soil is red earth of poor quality but supports a rank growth of vegetation including many species of ferns, mosses and flowering plants not observed below 3500 feet elevation.

Mr. Hamlin spent 2 days on Kolevrat and then went back to the France while Coultas and I were at the camp March 12th to March 19th. during which time it rained heavily nearly all the time. This is a very difficult locality for hunting birds on account of the steep slopes and cliffs and the dense tangles of vines, ferns, fallen trees and deep moss. In the most inaccessible parts where the vegetation was rankest and where the big trees shut out much light with their interlacing branches were found the habitat of the new brown fantail and the phylloscopus. The little green and the little red parrots occur in small flocks in the tops of the high trees in this habitat. Nearly all of those seen or taken are from near the top of Kolevrat. Because they are generally so high up in the large trees it was necessary to use large cartridges to reach them. Often several could be taken with one shot. The black winged pigeon occurred in flocks often with Macropegia on the lower branches of large trees on Kolevrat. Very few were found elsewhere except near the top.

Wangafufu is a deserted village on Mt. Kolevrat situated at elevation of about 3000 feet. Coultas and I spent from March 20th. to March 30th. in this place. Many birds were collected in this locality but not a single specimen new to the list of Malaita. The flora as observed has many species not seen elsewhere and insect life, especially moths and butterflies, are rich in number of species. A ground thrush, similar to the one on Rennell island was

seen but not taken.

Aurola or Arola is about the same elevation as Wangafufu and the forests contain the same general vegetation. This village is 6 hours walk from Wangafufu. Most of the rare birds were taken in this locality by the bushmen. This was partly because they knew their own district so well. Altho at a lower altitude than top of Mt. Kolevrat, it is richer in numbers of species and in rarer species of birds. It is also easier of access. In the vicinity of Aurola are scattered small villages and native gardens. The nearest habitations to the top of Kolevrat are 3 or 4 hours walk.

Kwarambara is a small native village on the East coast of Malaita. There is a small river that flows into the inlet at this village. About 200 meters inland the country slopes steeply to the high ridge at Aurola. The bird life observed, seems to be quite similar to that of the West side of Malaita, and is not even as good as it is around Suu.

Only the brown heron and three other common species of birds were taken at this locality.

Birds collected on Malaita.

1. Megapodius freycinet - 1 - Suu.

The bush hen seems to be rare in the districts that we collected in. Only one specimen was shot and very few observed. This one was roosting in a tree-- evening. Its crop was filled mostly with small land snails of several species.

2. Ptilinopus superbus -27-

Mostly from Suu and Willies village and a few from near Aurola.

3. Ptilinopus solomonensis -35-

Suu, Willies village, Mt. Kolevrat, Wangafufu, Aurola (Kwarambara seen)

4. Ptilinopus viridis -13-

Mostly from Aurola.

5. Ducula pistrinaria -0-

6. Ducula brenchleyi -1- Suu.

7. Ducula rubricera -15-

Common-- especially on Mt. Kolevrat.

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Common-- especially on Mt. Kolevrat.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued.

8. Columba vitiensis - 2 -

Suu- Mt. Kolevrat.

9. Macropegia rufa - 23 -

Not taken at Suu-- 1 specimen seen and shot at Willies village. Very common on top of Mt. Kolevrat.

10. Reinwardtoena - 22 -

Common on top of Mt. Kolevrat. A few taken near Aurola but not seen elsewhere

11. Coryphoenas crassirostris - 9 -

Not common -- taken at Suu, Willies village-- Mt. Kolevrat, Wangafufu and Aurola.

12. Chalcophaps stephani - 9 -

Common near Suu in forest near shore on coral rock flat. Often seen in small flocks.

13. Amauornis olivacea - 0 -

Reported by natives-- but not seen by us.

14. Porphyrio - 3 -

Suu, Willies village and Aurola.

15. Charadrius - 0 -

Very common at Suu, at Melanesian mission plantation.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued.

16. Tringa hypoleucos - 1 -

Common at Suu.

17. Nycticorax caledonicus - 2 -

Not common but widely distributed. Suu and Kwarambara. In mangrove swamp.

18. Demigretta sacra - 1 -

Common-- Suu. (Shore).

19. Butorides Javanica - 1 -

Suu -- in a small river.

20. Anas superciliosa - 1 -

Suu (on the river) - not common here.

21. Accipeter novaehollandiae - 1 -

Aurola.

22. Accipeter albogularis - 1 -

in mountains near Suu.

23. Haliaetus leucogaster - 0 -

not uncommon. This bird is tambo.

24. Haliastur indus - 0 -

seen near Suu.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued.

25. Aviceda subcristata - 1 -

Suu.

26. Pandion haliaster - 1 -

Suu.

27. Ninox n. sp. - 2 -

Aurola ♂ and ♀ taken together.

28. Tyto alba - 1 -

(Very rare) Aurola-- unknown to most of the natives. This one was brought in alive by a boy who took it out of a hollow tree.

29. Eos cardinalis - 6 -

Suu.

30. Lorius chlorocercus - 50 -

Common in high trees - taken at all stations.

31. Trichoglossus haematodes - 3 -

Suu.-- In cocoanut trees.

32. Charmosyna margarettae - 21 -

in flocks of 2 or 3 dozen. Always seen in high trees-- near the top of Mt. Kolevrat only.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued

33. Charmosynopsis meeki - 16 -

Same habitat and locality as 32.

34. Cakatoa ducorpsii - 9 -

Common everywhere-- specimens collected at Suu and Willies village.

35. Micropsitta finschii - 9 -

Suu and Aurola.

36. Eclectus pectoralis - 12 -

All localities except top of Mt. Kolevrat.

37. Geoffroyus heteroclitus - 29 -

All localities.

38. Eurystomus orientalis - 10 -

Suu, Willies village and Aurola.

39. Alcedo atthis - 0 - ?

40. Ceyx lepidus - 1 -

Aurola-- heard in several localities

41. Halcyon chloris - 12 -

All collected at Aurola.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued.

42. Halycyon saurophagus - 0 -

Seen at Suu.

43. Calao plicata - 5 -

1- Suu-- 2- Willies village-- 2- Aurola.

(Halycyon sancta) had not yet arrived from the south.

44. Callocalia esculenta - 0 -

Common.

45. Callocalia fusiphaga - 0 -

Common.

46. Hemiprocne mystacea - 7 -

Suu, Willies village and Aurola.

47. Cuculus - 1 - ?

48. Cacomantis varilosus - 6 -

Suu - on edge of gardens in second growth.

49. Eudynamis scolopacea - 2 -

Suu and Aurola.

50. Urodynamis taitensis - 1 -

Aurola.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued.

51. Hirundo tahitica - 0 -

Common on coast.

52. Rhipidura leucophyrs - 2 -

Common on coast.

53. Rhipidura cockerelli - 35 -

In deep forests from Suu to top of Kolevrat.

54. Rhipidura rufifrons - 24 -

Same habitat and locality as 53.

55. Rhipidura (new sp.) - 37 -

Top of Kolevrat and around Aurola in deep forest in bushes and lower branches of trees (not common).

56. Myriagra ferrocyanea - 51 -

Taken at all localities. Very common at Suu and Willies village but rare on Kolevrat and Aurola.

57. Monarcha barbata - 52 -

Taken at all localities.

58. Monarcha castaneiventris - 46 -

Taken at all localities.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued.

59. Coracina lineata - 23 -

Common from the coast to top of Kolevrat.

60. Coracina papuensis - 31 -

Common from the coast to top of Kolevrat. Specimens collected at Suu and Willies village. This species is strictly tambo amongst the mountain bushmen.

61. Edoliisoma tenuirostra - 32 -

Suu and Willies village. It was very common at W. village but I do not recall of having seen any on Kolevrat. Several were collected at Aurola also.

62. Edoliisoma holopolium - 48 -

Suu, Willies village, Wangafufu and Aurola. Not seen on top of Kolevrat.

63. Phylloscopus trivirgatus - 10 -

Mt. Kolevrat and Aurola-- very shy and retiring -- same habitat as 55 on Kolevrat but around Aurola it was generally shot out of high trees.

64. Pachycephala orioloides - 46 -

Suu, Willies village and common on Kolevrat and around Aurola.

Birds collected on Malaita, continued.

65. Cinnyris jugularis - 11 -

Suu and Aurola-- rather scarce.

66. Zosterops - 54 -

All localities.

67. Dicaeum aeneum - 42 -

Very common near coast; rare on Kolevrat and around Aurola.

68. Myzomela - 65 -

From coast to top of Kolevrat.

69. Mino dumontii - 38 -

From coast to top of Kolevrat.

70. Aplonis metallicus - 3 -

71. Aplonis cantoroides - 0 -

72. Aplonis grandis - 42 -

Common at Suu, W. village, Wangafufu and Aurola. One Nicobar pigeon seen at Suu in Mangroves.

Santa Anna Id. near San Cristoval Id.
Br. Solomons.
Jan. 1st., 1930.

The following account covers most of the work that I have performed since coming to the Solomons, and a few brief notes on shell collecting etc.

On many islands and in the various localities where I have had time and opportunity to collect shells, I have gathered them in large series. While aboard the Marsena fair sized collections were made at Samarai, Papua, Rabaul, New Britain, Kavieng, New Ireland etc.

At Sorikan, Bougainville Id., we met Mr. Hamlin, where the France had gone for repairs after her engine broke down. At that time there were no accomodations for us, so we went on to Kieta, Bougainville and stayed with Tom Ebery, the trader from Aug. 17th. to Sept. 3rd. While at Kavieng, I severely sunburned my legs. When I reached Kieta, they were terribly blistered, but within three days after reaching shore they were thoroughly healed up.

As no bird collecting equipment was at hand from the France, most of my time was spent in carefully exploring the beaches, reefs and ditches for shells. About 350 sp. and sub-sp. of Marines, 20 land and 30 freshwater shells were thus obtained. Five kerosene cases of shells were taken. It is rather remarkable to note the extreme

variation in species of shells taken in 4 ditches at Kieta, all within a distance of half a mile. Two of them are parallel to each other at a distance of two hundred feet apart. No less than 25 species and sub. sp. were taken, mostly of the genera Melania and Neritina. In no.1 ditch or creek which is farthest, only 4 species were found, none of which were found in the three remaining ditches. Each of these were inhabited by from three to six species and sub-species not found in any of the others altho the same conditions prevailed. Since that time I have found that this apparent local variation is not true, for most of these species are widely distributed thruout the Solomon islands and show only slight variation.

Sept. 6 - 14.

Three days were spent in sailing to Faisi, Shortland islands where we stayed 8 days Sept. 6 - 14, to take on supplies etc. As Mr. Beck had previously collected all the birds in this locality only a few were taken. A large mangrove swamp almost surrounds the bay of Faisi and it is very difficult to pass thru except on Low Fung's plantation. Birds are very scarce around Faisi. A good series of marine shells were gathered, the beach drift in several spots being exceedingly rich in minute species. About 150 species of small shells besides the larger ones were taken. One can only find drift rich in shells, at intervals. It must invariably be taken when found, for

the next tide carries it away again and the next day most of it will be gone.

There is a fine cool spring of clear fresh-water about 12 feet deep, back of the mangroves on Low Fung's plantation. It is surrounded by beautiful trees and a dense growth of various plants. There are no sand flies and mosquitos. Out of the spring flows a clear stream from 1 to 3 feet in depth. In this pool, I collected over 30 species and subspecies of shells in 2 hours. With a thoro raking over the bottom, many more could very likely be brought to light.

Sept. 16 - Oct. 6.

Two days sailing from Faisi brought us to Choiseul bay, Choiseul island, where 21 days were spent (Sept. 16 - Oct. 6). Beck had been there about a week, but Mr. Hamlin decided that the locality required more thoro collecting and that it would be as good as anywhere on the island to look for the rare Microgoura Meeki. A number of rare birds were collected but unfortunately not having Beck's list of birds from there, no one could remember exactly what species we shot that he did not get before. Choiseul bay is surrounded by large and very muddy mangrove swamps. It rained almost every day in heavy down-pour. Fine forests of large trees are back of the swamps but the more desirable species of birds are very scarce on Choiseul island so about 2 or 3 good

birds in a long day's hunt was the general rule. Over 300 species of shells were collected including a good series of the smaller Tridacnas, which are not yet well worked out. Two large sharks were caught one night about 10 P.M. while we were skinning birds. The largest was 10-1/2 feet long. During the night a larger shark had eaten about one half of him.

While anchored in Choiseul bay, Mr. Hamlin and two of the Polynesians, went on an 18 day trip and brought back about 3 dozen birds mostly rare, but no Microgoura. Then we went to Lutee where two separate trips were made into the bush to look for the bird. Every effort was made to find it and all native villages on that side of the island were informed that 20 dollars would be offered for a Microgoura. Dr. Mayr, Mr. Coultas and one of the Samoans spent 2 weeks on the Wurulata river and on Mount Maytambi while Mr. Hamlin, David the Samoan and I went with a trader to the Methodist Mission village of Sasumanga where we fitted out for a trek up the Sasumanga river back in the hills.

Before we went up there, I cut up a small rotten whale with my Jap knife. It was five miles down the coast. We decided that Dr. Murphy might be pleased to get the skeleton. The natives flocked down to the water to watch me butcher the stinking carcase, after stuffing their noses with grass. After about an hour, several of them mustered up courage to help with the cutting and in two hours

about 20 of them were working with a will, some of them cutting while others were boiling the meat off the bone. Mr. Hamlin numbered them all. The whole job was completed and the bones all carried to Sasumanga before evening. It was great fun for the natives after they had entered into the spirit of the work.

The next day we went on our trip with 10 carriers. We had to carry the heaviest loads ourselves.

Beche-de-mer English as spoken in the Solomon islands.

fella = fellow is used very frequently to associate any object.

belong or blong shows close relationship with an object.

Along means with, on, at, from, by, of.

All females are Marys --- (fellow or fella)

All genders, cases and sexes are masculine.

Ketchum or catchum means take, bring, fetch, get, obtain.

e.g. This fella Mary blong me, he ketchum one fella pickaninny along him. He alla same Mary too.

or-- he alla same man.

translated this means -- My wife has a baby girl or boy.

Milk is susu -- Too much means some or enough.

e.g. This fella Mary blong me fella, he likeum this pickaninny blong him too much. Him pickanniny ketchum plenty susu along him alla time.

translated = My wife is very fond of her baby and nurses her well.

All cows, calves, bulls or cattle are bullamacows, also tinned beef.

e.g. Plenty too much susu he stop along this fella Mary, alla same him bullamacow.

translated = This cow gives plenty of milk.

Kai-kai is food, to eat, a feast - meat etc.

A cannibal is a -- fella he savvy kai kai along man.

Walk about = stirred up, agitated, going around, dizzy, moving, walking, shaking, swaying.

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Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

Sing out and capsize or capset are used frequently.

Salt water is generally pronounced soda water.

Close up means pretty soon or presently.

e.g. Close up along morning me shootum pigeon

translated = Early tomorrow morning I will shoot birds.

A sore leg may mean any kind of a sore, even a sore eye.

e.g. Me fella ketchum one fella sore leg along eye. Alla time he walk about strong fella too much. Spose me no savvy ketchum medicine for fight um this blong eye, methink bimeby he bugger up finish.

translated =

I have a sore eye which hurts all the time. I think if I cannot get the right medicine for it pretty soon I am liable to go blind.

box = bokkiss

One of the most peculiar and amusing expressions is one from Bougainville island. A boy asked one of our men if he could play the piano. He expressed himself thusly. " You savvy this big fella bokkiss ? Spose you fight him, he cry. " My word ! Me likeum too much spose you make um sing out along him".

To tell a boy to fetch a glass of water, " Hey boy! you ketchum one fella glass blong kai kai water. You bring um he come". To take anything away = " You ketchum he go ".

To kill a boy means simply to give him a good hiding but to actually kill, a boy will say - "He killum die finish altogether ".

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

A boy on Malaita seduced another boy's Mary and was found out. That is death punishment there.

"One fella boy he stealum this fella Mary blong me along garden. Bimeby this fella ketchum akkiss (axe) along head. He go die finish altogether."

Tell a boy to bring the shells of a giant clam and to take the meat out first, one must say "Spose you boy you ketchum one big fella clam along me, kai kai blong him he walk about. You bring him he come."

For a mess of small clams to eat and to remain in the shells- "You bring um plenty small fella clam; kai kai blong him he stop altogether. He no savvy walk about."

translated = "You bring me some small clams to eat and don't take the meat out of the shells."

If a boy is sea sick he will say --"Belly blong me fella he walk about too much." or "Belly blong me fella he sing out strong fella too much."

If a boy has a headache--"Head blong me, he sing out allatime." If he is dizzy he says, "Head blong me fella he walk about strong fella too much."

On Rennell island the people are still primitive savages. When the France was there the ship was often crowded with people. They were always in the way and getting into places where they did not belong. Our

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

Solomon island cook boy was pushed nearly against the galley stove one day by inquisitive fellows that crowded him. He took a hot frying pan off the fire and held it against the posterior of one of the native boys expecting to see him jump, but he did not budge. Aravo then said-- "Ass blong this fella he strong fella alla same piggy pig."

If some one is sound asleep--

"This fella he sleep strong fella too much"

All kinds of birds are pigeons.

All boys and men are boys.

In hunting every day in the forest for birds one always meets people and they generally ask where you are going and what are you doing and wish to know about the work and about the ship etc.

"Good day master! You go for shootum pigeon along scrub"? "Yes! Me shoot um all kinda pigeon." "What kinda pigeon you like um more better along this place"? (This would be on Galer (Florida) or Guadalcanar islands where the big cuckoo (Centropus) is found. "Well! you savvy this big fella pigeon, he walk about along ground for look um something. Spose he walk about along one big fella tree blong nutty he sing out alla same doggy dog or bullamacow"? "Yes! Me savvy him". Plenty this big fella pigeon he stop along scrub close up along garden blong me fella." Spose you like me showa you alla same. Me look um three fella this kind a pigeon first time along morning, close up when sun he come up this day!

Solomon Island Sacha-de-mar English, continued.

Solomon island cook boy was pushed nearly against the galley stove one day by inquisitive fellows that crowded him. He took a hot frying pan off the fire and held it against the posterior of one of the native boys expecting to see him jump, but he did not budge. Aravo then said: "Ass blong this fella he strong fella alla same piggy p

If some one is sound asleep--

"This fella he sleep strong fella too much"

All kinds of birds are pigeons.

All boys and men are boys.

In hunting every day in the forest for birds one alw meets people and they generally ask where you are going and what are you doing and wish to know about the work and about the ship etc.

"Good day master! You go for shootum pigeon along se "Yes! Me shoot um all kinda pigeon." "What kinda pigeon like um more better along this place"? (This would be Galer (Florida) or Guadalcanar islands where the big cu (Centropus) is found. "Well! you savvy this big fella p he walk about along ground for look um something. Spose walk about along one big fella tree blong nutty he sing alla same doggy dog or bullamacow"? "Yes! Me savvy him Plenty this big fella pigeon he stop along scrub close along garden blong me fella." Spose you like me showa alla same. Me look um three fella this kind a pigeon f time along morning, close up when sun he come up this d

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

You gottum tobac"?

"Here one fella stick blong you spose you tella me this place".

"This fella Mary blong you"? "Him now." This other fella alla same sister blong me. This place him garden blong me. Two fella Mary stop for ketchum taro.

"You gottum plenty taro, plenty yam, plenty sweet potato"? "Yes! Me gottum plenty too much, alla same little bit"

"Spose you talk along this Mary blong you and this fella sister, he ketchum plenty altogether something for kai kai blong garden for bring um along ship next day. Me give um plenty tobac, some calico, spose you bring um he come."

"Alright master, me ketchum he go plenty kai kai blong garden along ship. Good bye Master. Me look along you along ship".

I had somewhat of the following conversation with some mountain bush boys in the camp on Torumbusa

"Plenty too much all kinda pigeon he stop along this high hilly. First time we make um house along scrub close up along top. Tomorrow some three fella boy he go shoot um pigeon. Plenty small fella pigeon he more better. Me no likeum too much this big fella

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

pigeon. This kind he stop along soda water, Me want um this kinda pigeon little bit, no more. Closeup he finish along me. Kai kai pigeon he good one along kai kai. Shoot um plenty spose look um. Bimeby altogether boy along bush he savvy shoot um good fella pigeon along we two fella master. Altogether pigeon spose boy he shoot um he ketchum 1 stick tobac along three fella pigeon. Spose he shoot um good fella pigeon he ketchum 1 stick tobac along 1 pigeon. Spose he good fella too much alla same some pigeon me like um plenty too much, you ketchum 1 shilling along 1 pigeon. Bimeby boy he give um me altogether name blong pigeon along bush; then me savvee what name altogether how much tobac he fittum pigeon.

W.J.E. Where Hankapaw John, alla same this fella he savvy too much along devil devil blong bush"?

Boy "Him he stop. He makeum kai kai blong you two fella master. Hey! John you come".

W.E.J. "John! Me savvy you good fella too much along devil devil blong bush. Yesterday you, me, Mr.Hamlin and altogether boy carry something blong we two fella master, we stop along house blong boy close up along Hwadecho river. Altogether everybody he stop because close up big black fella rain he savvy come along topside. Mr. Hamlin and Me fella fright too much along this rain, because he make um altogether something wet too much spose he come down.

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

You fella John, alla same big fella devil-devil man, you sing out along Mr. Hamlin, Alla same". My word! Me savvy this devil-devil blong rain for make um stop finish, he no come. Spose you give a me one fella shilling me make um rain he no savvy come. Mr. Hamlin he think John he speak gammon along we two fella Master but he give um 1 fella shilling along John alla same. John he take um shilling. Then he say ". "Alright everybody he take um altogether something for ketchum he go now. Rain he no savvy come now. He bugger up finish along this devil devil blong me. Rain me no come". "My word! John you savvy this devil devil blong you too much. You savvy make um rain he no come. Alla time you talk talk something along this devil devil blong rain for no ketchum he come. My word! you savvy too much."

W.J.E. - "John where Mary blong you? What name? You no ketchum Mary?

John - "Master, me sorry too much alla time because me old man now. Me no more ketchum Mary. This Mary blong me, he ketchum one fella akkiss along head. Some pleece boy blong government he killum die finish in big fella fight close up along Sinarango. Government no good, boy blong soda water no good, missionary him no good. Altogether spose he come, we make um big fella fight along him. Killum finish. You two fella master you good fella

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

too much. No make um trouble, no blong government, no blong mission, no blong England. Altogether boy he savvy you fella blong one big fella country, alla same Merika. Some boy blong bush he savvy this schooner France because friend blong him he say he good one. Altogether boy blong bush he like shoot um pigeon along you two fella master."

W.J.E. "Yes John! You savvy altogether busness blong we two fella master for make um work for pigeon. Merika he big fella country too much. He no savvy make um fight along boy blong bush. We two white master good fella too much along altogether boy blong bush. We alla same friend blong him now. Merika he friend too. We two fella master like savvy some fashion along boy blong bush. How boy he savvy ketchum Mary blong him altogether for take him"?

John -- "Spose boy he like um one fella Mary, he talk along father blong him. This father blong boy he go talk along father blong this fella Mary for ask him. How much piggy pig, how much sappy sappy (red shell money) how much shilling, how much pound altogether he fit him for ketchum this fella Mary. This father blong Mary maybe he say one hundred pound he fit him along this Mary blong me fella. Spose you no savvy pay, you no ketchum for this boy blong you."

"Spose father blong boy he got um plenty altogether something for make um pay for ketchum this Mary, he say "Alright bimeby me make um one big fella

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

kai kai for boy blong me for ketchum Mary blong him."

"Spose father blong boy he no got um plenty altogether something for make um pay for ketchum this Mary, boy he no savvy ketchum no more. Sometime, spose boy like um this fella Mary too much, he send um friend blong him for tell um this Mary he likeum too much. He talk along this Mary he go walk about along night or he work along garden blong him. This Mary he say alright; Me walk about. Boy he come. He savvy steal um this Mary spose nobody he look him. He got some friend, maybe two, three fella for help him. Bimeby, close up, father blong Mary he no look him no more. He savvy boy he stealum this Mary. My word! He cross too much. This (father) old man he sing out along altogether boy along place blong him for take um plenty musket, plenty akkiss, spear and altogether something for make um fight for killum this boy for stealum Mary. Close up he come along house blong this boy, but he no lookum boy. Everybody along this house he fright too much for lookum plenty fella for make um fight. Bimeby father blong boy he sing out; alright you no killum boy blong me fella. Altogether boy along this place he bringum pay for this Mary. Close up everybody make um one big fella kai kai for this father. Then everybody happy too much."

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

"Plenty boy along Malaita he no savvy ketchum Mary, because he no ketchum plenty something for father blong Mary.

W.J.E. My word! What name altogether Mary blong bushman he no savvy ketchum Calico along him all a same man blong him"? All a time Mary he no gottum nothing along him".

John " Him he fashion along boy this way. Altogether Mary blong bushman he cost um too much money first time for ketchum. This Mary he no savvy got um calico.

W.J.E. This place close up along high hilly, he alla time plenty rain, he cold too much. Altogether Mary blong bushman he no got um nothing. He bringum plenty taro, plenty yam, altogether he work strong fella too much. Along night, plenty boy come for askum shirt, blanket, sack, altogether calico blong we two white fella master. We give um along boy. Boy he got um plenty calico for make um warm. What name he no give um calico or sack along alla same this fella Mary he got um small fella pickaninny? Him two fella he cold too much along night along this small fella fire."

John "Me no savvy". This way he fashion along man blong bush."

W.J.E. "Spose boy he like ketchum Mary along night,

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

spose Mary he like um this fashion; what he do"?

John "This fashion, him he no good. Spose father or husband he ketchum, he kill um two fella finish along akkiss."

W.J.E. "Me like talk along this big fella fight close up along Sinarango one year before. What name this fella Bassiano he killum finish along Mr. Bell and Mr. Tilly."

John "Alright! Me talk along you alla same, Long time, plenty man along bush he cross too much along white man, alla same he cross along man blong soda water. Time before white man he shoot um plenty um plenty man blong bush. Alla same man blong bush he killum finish two, three,four white master along soda water. Long time he no kill um white man. Plenty boy he cross along government for take um takkiss from boy. Some boy he cross along Mr. Bell alla same he cross along pleece boy blong Mr. Bell for stealum some Mary along garden."

One village he gottum plenty money, plenty sappy-sappy. Master along this village he say spose some fella savvy plenty fight along white man for bring um head blong him, he ketchum 100 pound. First time one man he take um money for pay along 1 year, but he no savvy killum white man. Two, three, four year he alla same, Nobody savvy killum white man this time. Bimeby

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

Mr. Bell, Mr. Tilly, two white fella master blong government he come with 15 pleece boy for take um 10 sh. takkiss along together boy blong bush.

Bassiano, him he savvy killum finish plenty too much man alla time along Malaita. Altogether boy very fright along Bassiano. He got um too much head along house blong him. This time he gottum this 100 pound for killum white man long time. Man blong devil-devil along Sinarango he speak along Bassiano." "This time me killum piggy pig, he got um plenty bloody nose. Devil-devil he speak true this time for killum this two fella white master when he come. Alla time before, spose me killum piggy pig he got um bloody nose along mouth. Alla time devil-devil he speak, this way him no good. Spose he bloody along nose he good one too much for killum white man."

"Everybody he look along two fella white master and altogether pleece. Mr. Bell he sit down in house. He no fight along plenty man blong bush. Mr. Bell he tell um pleece man for put um altogether musket in house he stop. Bimeby Bassiano he ketchum eye blong this devil-devil man for time for killum Mr. Bell and altogether pleece. Quick time Bassiano take um musket blong Mr. Bell and kill um finish along head. Plenty bushman he ketchum musket and akkiss for knock about along head blong fifteen pleece man. This way he killum finish Mr. Bell, Mr. Tilly and 14 pleece man. One pleece he

ketchum akkiss but he no die finish. Bimeby he ketchum soda water along night. Nobody look um this fella first time for run away.

Altogether boy along bush he happy too much for killum finish too much pleece Man and two white fella master. Everybody make um altogether one big fella kai kai dance. Bassiano he big man now. Everybody fright along him because he savvy killum too much man. Bassiano he gottum bout 100 head altogether.

Bimeby government he come quick time for make um big fella fight close up along Sinarango. Twelve white master he come and bout 500 boy blong soda water he come and plenty pleece man. Altogether government he cross too much along man blong bush. He shoot um finish along altogether somebody along bush, spose he lookum man, spose he lookum Mary, spose he lookum pickaninny. Him alla same he killum finish. White man and plenty pleece he look about altogether place for killum Bassiano. Bimeby one day some boy along Aurola he find um place blong Bassiano. This fella he make um big fight; bimeby government he take um Bassiano and seven more fella boy along Tulagi where he ketchum altogether rope along head.

Pleece man he killum finish this Mary blong me along fight, plenty boy lose um Mary too. Pleece man and altogether boy blong soda water he burn um finish plenty house, he bugger up plenty garden altogether. This way nobody savvy ketchum kai kai no more. Everybody hungry too much.

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

Bimeby government he take um bout 300 fella along Tulagi for make um work along road blong calaboose.

W.J.E. "Well John! Bimeby I go along Sinarango for shoot um pigeon. You savvy some fella he cross too much along white man spose I stop along him?

John "Yes! plenty boy he cross along white man, but now he no savvy make um fight because he fright too much along government. Some old fella he no fright. Spose he killum white man finish he no fright for die alla same because maybe he lose um boy or he lose um Mary blong him along this fight." You two fella master-- More better you no go along this village Attaha. Two very bad fella stop along this place. Plenty killum man take um head. This two fella he old one He savvy kai kai along man too much. More better you no lookum pigeon along this place. This two fella he cross too much along white man.

W.J.E. Yes! Me savvy this village Attaha. One boy, him name Bielow him work cookum kai-kai along schooner France. This place blong him. He say this two old fella alla same master blong Attaha and he savvy kai kai along man alla same piggy pig.

(Charlie Babamai (Chief of Aurola)) "I think this place along high hilly he is plenty good. Alla time he rain too much, plenty big fella wind he blow too much cold. Me savvy place he more better for shootum plenty

Solomon Island Beche-de-mer English, continued.

pigeon. He close up along Aurola, alla same place blong me."

Coultas " This place we been stop 2 week. Along two day everybody go along Wangafufu for make um house. This way he more better."

Charlie B. "Yes! Wangafufu he more better for altogether work along pigeon. He more better for stop. Bimeby we ketchum Aurola place blong me House he big one, good for work. Plenty good fella pigeon." A boy comes from Aurola and tells the headman C.B. that his little baby is very sick.

Charlie B. "Close up along morning I go along place blong me for lookum pickaninny he sick too much."

Coultas "You savvy fight um this sick along pickaninny"?

Charlie B. "Yes! Me savvy little bit. Please for give um me 5 shilling for buy um small fella piggy pig.

Coultas "What good this small piggy pig along sick"?

Charlie B. "Me buy him for give um along this devil-devil he make um pickaninny sick." Spose me no give um piggy pig along this devil-devil, pickaninny he die finish. You savvy now"?

Coultas "Yes! Me savvy-- Here 5 shilling blong you."

W.J.E. "Me lookum this Mary blong you Charlie. Him, he no got um nothing along him. Pickaninny he no got

nothing. Alla time wind he blow, rain he come, every-body cold too much. Altogether this Mary along bush along high hilly he cold too much. Pickaninny he ketchum sick along cold. Here you take um this blanket along you for make um pickaninny he warm one."

Charlie "Alright, Master I take um. I come back along two day."

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